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ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

Report to the Supreme Court of Iowa
by
The State Court Administrator

STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

WILLIAM J O'BRIEN
STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

STATE CAPITOL
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

April 17, 1991

TO THE HONORABLE CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUSTICES
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

Pursuant to the provisions of the Iowa Code § 602.1209, I submit herewith the 1990 report relating to the activity of the judicial department.

I wish to express my appreciation to the clerks of the Iowa District Court, district court administrators and judicial officers for their cooperation in reporting statistics to this office.

Respectfully,

William J. O'Brien
State Court Administrator

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STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS AND TRENDS

Appellate Courts

1. In 1990, there were 1,954 filings (1,390 civil, 564 criminal) and 1,920 dispositions (1,359 civil, 561 criminal). Filings and dispositions decreased 1.4 percent and 7.3 percent, respectively, from 1989. **[Tables 2, 6, 8, and 12]**

2. Since 1977, the number of filings in the appellate courts soared 58.7 percent (1,231 to 1,954), an average of 4.5 percent per year; the number of filings per appellate judge climbed 47.7 percent (88 to 130). **[Table 12]**

3. There were 1,056 formal dispositions (783 civil, 273 criminal) in the appellate courts in 1990 -- a 13.7 percent decrease from 1989. By formal opinion, the supreme court disposed of 411 cases (276 civil, 135 criminal); the court of appeals handled 645 cases (507 civil, 138 criminal). The number of civil cases disposed of by formal opinion in the appellate courts decreased 13.7 percent (907 to 783) from 1989 to 1990; the number of criminal cases dropped 13.9 percent (317 to 273). There were 864 appellate cases (576 civil, 288 criminal) terminated by order or other mode prior to submission to the court as compared to 848 dispositions of this kind in 1989. **[Tables 3 and 9]**

4. Excluding attorney disciplinary cases, in 1990, cases involving domestic relations (dissolutions and child custody) comprised 29.2 percent (225 of 770) of the formal appellate decisions in civil cases -- the largest single category of dispositions. The 139 contract cases comprised the second most numerous type of civil case followed by torts (115), administrative law (78), and postconviction relief (64) cases. The number of attorney disciplinary cases disposed of by formal opinion increased 30 percent (10 to 13) from 1989 to 1990. In 1988, there were 18 attorney disciplinary cases handled by formal opinion. **[Tables 3 and 9]**

5. The average appellate case terminated by formal opinion was decided about five and one-half months after it was ready for submission; the average elapse time from the filing of a notice of appeal to the time a case was ready for submission was slightly less than seven months. Regular civil cases submitted to the supreme court in January 1991, were made ready in or before May 1990 -- a delay of eight months. **[Tables 5 and 11]**

6. During 1990, the number of pending cases in the appellate courts increased 7.3 percent (1,307 to 1,403). The number of cases "ready" for disposition jumped 17.8 percent (483 to 569). [A "ready" case in this context is defined as any pending case in which all necessary papers have been filed; it includes cases which have been submitted to the court but not decided.] **[Tables 4 and 8]**

7. By formal opinion, the appellate courts affirmed the decision of the trial court over two-thirds of the time; about one out of six district court filings were reversed and in the remaining cases the appellate courts rendered a mixed decision, partially affirming and reversing the trial court. The supreme court was more likely to reverse the trial court (21 percent) than the court of appeals (14 percent).

8. In 1990, the supreme court granted further review in 58 cases and denied further review in 283 instances. Since 1977, the supreme court has denied further review in 85.2 percent of the cases (2,655/3,118). **[Table 10]**

9. In 1990, the supreme court vacated the judgment of the court of appeals in 32 cases and affirmed 25 decisions.

10. Ninety-six percent of the formal rulings of the supreme court (395 of 411) and 90 percent of the opinions of the court of appeals (580 of 645) were decided by a unanimous vote of the court.

Trial Court

1. During the last 30 years, the number of civil filings escalated 94.4 percent (26,767 to 52,030) while the number of criminal filings skyrocketed 739.4 percent (7,260 to 60,942); the number of civil/criminal filings per district judge mushroomed 140.1 percent (466 to 1,119). **[Appendix F]** Iowa's population increased 0.7 percent (2,757,537 to 2,776,755) during this period.

2. Since 1960, the number of civil/criminal dispositions per district court judge jumped 67.4 percent (429 to 718). **[Appendix H]**

3. Since 1960, the number of juvenile petitions soared 301.9 percent (2,012 to 8,086). The number of probate cases opened rose 31.2 percent (17,248 to 22,633) since 1960. During 1990, the number of juvenile cases rose 14.1 percent (7,088 to 8,086) while the number of probate cases dropped 3.4 percent from 1989. **[Appendix F]**

4. From 1989 to 1990, the number of petitions for termination of parental rights decreased 3.6 percent (1,037 to 1,000); the number of hearings declined 4.2 percent (1,369 to 1,311). **[Table 9]**

5. Since 1974, the first calendar year after unification of the Iowa District Court, civil filings, criminal filings, juvenile petitions, and probate matters have increased 43.7, 195.1, 48.5 and 2.0 percent, respectively. Similarly, the number of simple misdemeanors/scheduled violations filings increased 49.9 percent (484,651 to 726,500) while the number of small claims petitions increased 7.3 percent (68,021 to 72,959). The 1990 figures show a 1.0 percent jump in the number of simple misdemeanor filings, a 2.3 percent drop in the number of scheduled violations, and an 8.9 percent increase in the number of small claims filed in the district court from 1989. **[Appendices F and G]**

6. There were 456,704 scheduled violations (admissions) and 41,165 small claims (dismissals and defaults) handled by the district court clerks' offices in 1990 without judicial assistance. **[Tables 15 and 16]**

7. In 1990, only 353 of the 302,443 simple misdemeanors (0.1 percent) and 684 of the 30,880 small claims (2.2 percent) terminated by judicial officers were appealed to the district court. **[Tables 5 and 6]**

8. The number of search warrant applications increased 3.0 percent (1,535 to 1,581) while the number of seized property hearings dropped 8.6 percent (687 to 628) since 1989. **[Table 14(d)]**

9. From 1989 to 1990, civil filings increased 4.9 percent (49,588 to 52,030); criminal filings jumped 9.0 percent (55,888 to 60,942). Although the number of civil case dispositions increased 2.1 percent (52,186 to 53,289) from 1989 to 1990, the number of criminal cases terminated soared 13.7 percent (52,771 to 59,996). **[Tables 2(a) and 3(a)]**

10. In 1990, the average district judge handled 520 civil cases and 199 criminal cases; the average district associate judge disposed of 17 civil cases and 868 criminal cases. **[Tables 2(d) and 3(d)]**

11. In 1990, dissolutions and modifications (18,725), uniform support (7,347), and domestic abuse (188) filings accounted for 26,260 cases or 50.5 percent of all civil filings (52,030). Drunk driving (OWI) cases represented 19,716 of the 60,942 criminal filings or 32.4 percent of all criminal filings. There were 10,884 felony filings in 1990 -- up 403 cases or 3.8 percent from the 10,481 felony filings in 1989. **[Tables 5 and 6]**

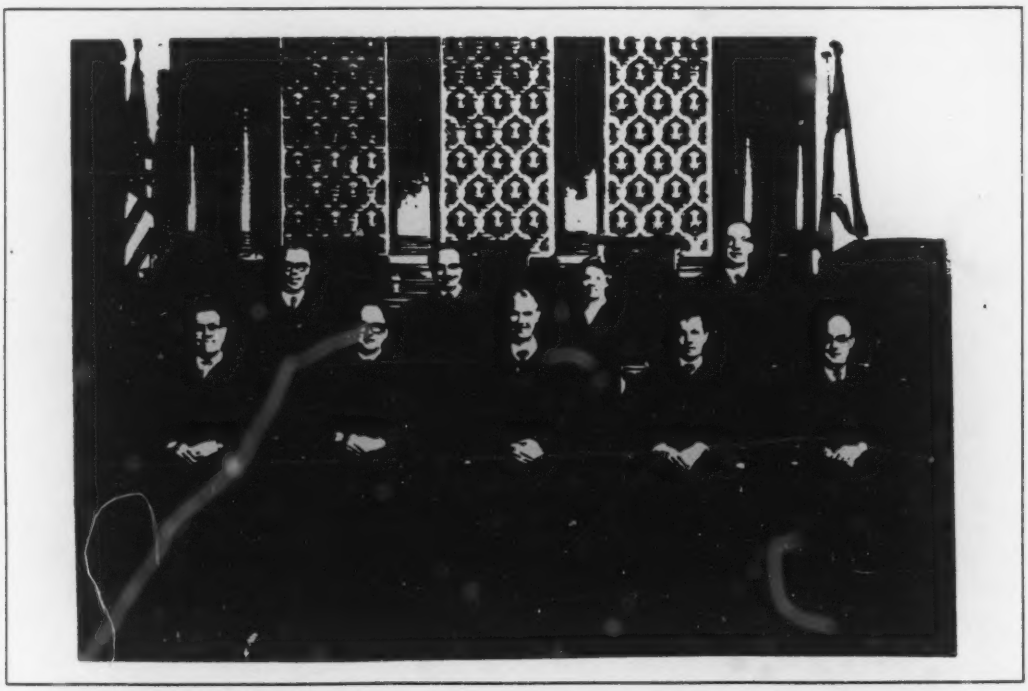
12. The number of civil cases pending decreased by 1.4 percent (34,511 to 34,021) from January 1, 1990, to December 31, 1990. The number of civil cases pending over 18 months dropped 16 percent (5,380 to 4,521) statewide; in the 7th District only one percent of the civil cases exceeded 18 months. On the other hand, the number of pending criminal cases rose 3.7 percent (25,332 to 26,277) during 1990; the number pending over 18 months climbed 2.8 percent (4,635 to 4,763). **[Appendices A and B]**

I. APPELLATE COURTS

THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

The Supreme Court of Iowa is composed of nine justices. The chief justice is selected by a vote of the court and serves for the duration of his or her eight-year term of office. As of January 1, 1991, one hundred persons have served on the supreme court since Iowa became a territory in 1838. Although the high court was composed of only three justices during the first 26 years, the general assembly increased the court's membership to four in 1864, to five in 1876, to six in 1894, to seven in 1913, to eight in 1927, and nine in 1929, as a result of rising caseload.

At the end of 1990, the justices of the supreme court listed in order of seniority were: David Harris (Jefferson), Arthur A. McGiverin, Chief Justice, (Ottumwa), Jerry L. Larson (Harlan), Louis W. Schultz (Iowa City), James H. Carter (Cedar Rapids), Louis A. Lavorato (Des Moines), Linda K. Neuman (Le Claire), Bruce M. Snell, Jr. (Ida Grove), and James H. Andreasen (Algona).



Pictured above, the justices of the Supreme Court of Iowa are: (seated) Justices Louis W. Schultz, David Harris, Arthur A. McGiverin (Chief), Jerry L. Larson, and James H. Carter; (standing) Bruce M. Snell, Jr., Louis A. Lavorato, Linda K. Neuman, and James H. Andreasen.

Selection and Removal

The method of selecting justices to the Supreme Court of Iowa has changed several times since 1838. While the three territorial justices were appointed by the President of the United States, when Iowa became a state on December 28, 1846, the constitution provided for the selection of supreme court justices by a joint vote of both houses of the general assembly. Iowa's second constitution, adopted in 1857, reflected the mood of Jacksonian democracy and called for the popular election of judges. Finally, in 1962, Iowa voters ratified a constitutional amendment which removed judges from partisan elections and established a 15-member State Judicial Nominating Commission composed of seven laypersons appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate and seven attorneys elected by members of the Iowa bar. The supreme court justice with the longest service, other than the chief justice, chairs the commission. Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Supreme Court of Iowa, the commission nominates three individuals from whom the governor selects one. One year following initial appointment, and every eight years thereafter, supreme court justices stand for retention at the general election. Trial and appellate judges appointed after July 1, 1965, must retire by age 72; those appointed earlier may serve until their 75th birthday.

Procedures were established in 1975 for the discipline and removal of judges standing for retention election. The Commission on Judicial Qualifications may apply to the supreme court to retire, discipline or remove any justice, judge or magistrate. The commission is composed of a district court judge and two practicing attorneys appointed by the chief justice of the supreme court and four non-attorney electors appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate.

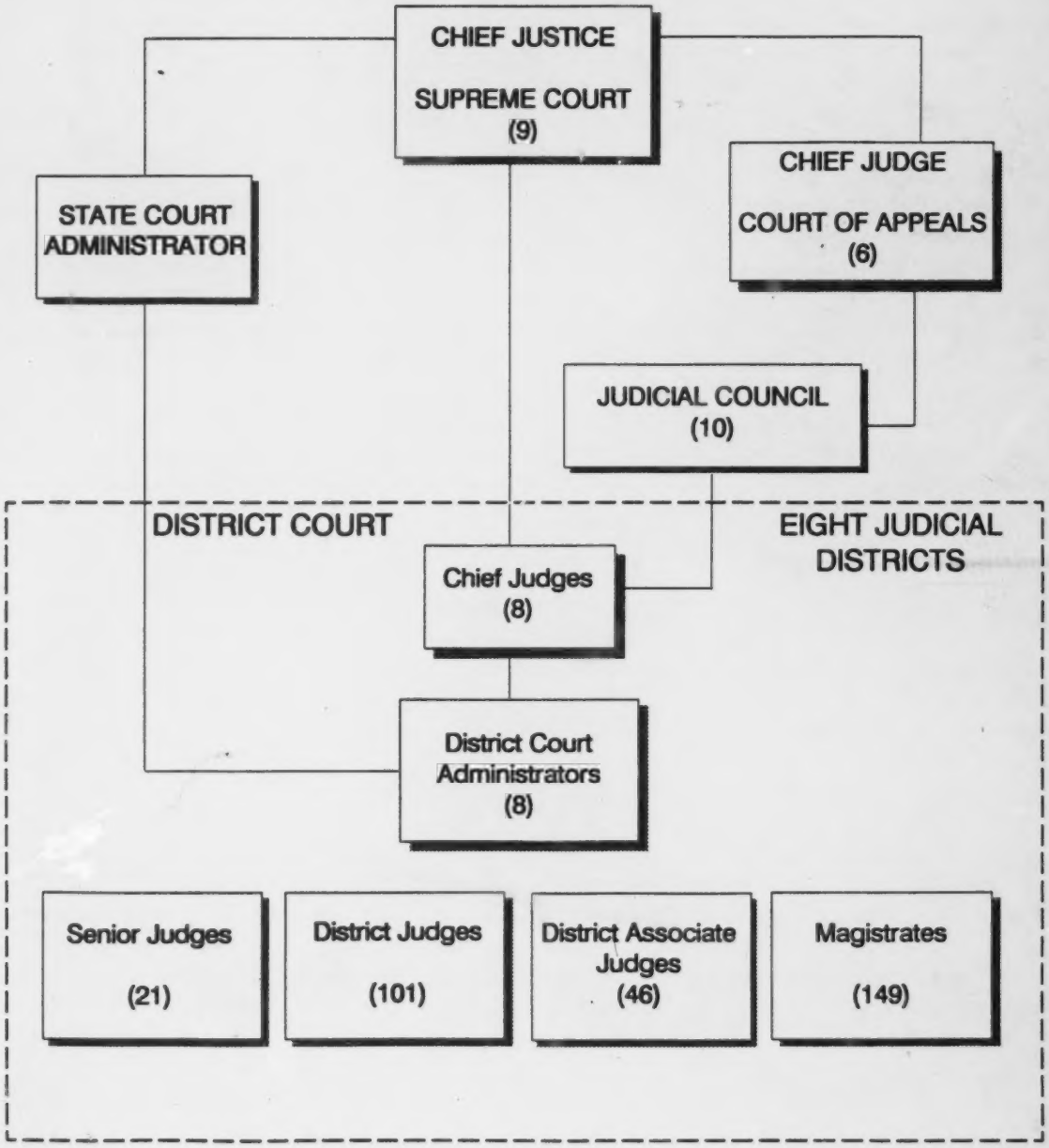
Jurisdiction

The supreme court stands at the apex of the Iowa judicial system. The court has general appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases. The court also has original jurisdiction in such cases as reapportionment, bar discipline and the issuance of temporary injunctions. The supreme court has jurisdiction over all appeals from final judgments and from interlocutory orders. It also has the authority to grant writs of certiorari in cases where a district court is alleged to have exceeded its jurisdiction or otherwise acted illegally. A majority of cases handled by the supreme court are appeals from adverse final judgments in the trial court, the Iowa District Court. Except where the action involves an interest in real estate, no appeal shall be taken in any case where the amount in controversy, as shown by the pleadings, is less than $3,000 unless the trial judge certifies that the cause is one in which appeal should be allowed. In small claims actions, where the amount in controversy is $2,000 or less, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases: (1) an order dismissing an arrest or search warrant; (2) an order suppressing or admitting evidence; (3) an order granting or denying a change of venue; and (4) a final judgment or order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. In cases where the defendant is the appellant or applicant, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases: (1) an order

CHART 1

IOWA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

January 1, 1991



suppressing or admitting evidence; (2) an order granting or denying a change of venue; (3) an order denying probation; (4) a simple misdemeanor or ordinance violation conviction; and (5) an order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. All other final judgments may be appealed to the supreme court as a matter of right. [See diagram of the Iowa judicial system on the preceding page.]

The 1976 Session of the 66th General Assembly established a five-member court of appeals. [The Iowa Court of Appeals was increased to six members in 1983.] All cases continue to be appealed directly to the supreme court which transfers cases to the intermediate court. Supreme court justices in rotating three-member panels determine which cases to retain and which matters to route to the court of appeals. Pursuant to Rule 401, Rules of Appellate Procedure, the supreme court ordinarily shall hear (not transfer) cases involving: (1) substantial constitutional questions as to the validity of a statute, ordinance, court or administrative rule; (2) substantial issues in which there is or is claimed to be a conflict with a published decision of the court of appeals or supreme court; (3) substantial issues of first impression; (4) fundamental and urgent issues of broad public importance requiring prompt or ultimate determination; and (5) lawyer discipline. The rule also authorizes summary disposition of certain cases by the supreme court and transfer to the court of appeals of cases involving the application of existing legal principles.

In addition to deciding cases, the supreme court is authorized to supervise the administration of justice and promulgate rules of procedure for the district court, determine the rules for admission and discipline of the bar, regulate a client security fund and program of mandatory continuing education for lawyers and judges, and adopt rules regulating appellate practice and procedure. In exercising its administrative and supervisory control over the trial court, the Supreme Court of Iowa appoints a chief judge in each of the eight judicial districts. The chief judges are responsible for overseeing all judges and magistrates within their jurisdictions. Together with the chief justice of the supreme court and the chief judge of the court of appeals, chief judges of the district court comprise the Iowa Judicial Council. The council is authorized to consider all court administrative rules, directives, and regulations necessary to provide for an efficient, orderly, and effective administration of justice in Iowa.

Administrative Office

Assisting the supreme court in its administrative, supervisory, and decision-making roles are the state court administrator, clerk of the supreme court, legal assistants, and various boards and commissions. The court administrator, clerk of supreme court and legal assistants serve at the pleasure of the court. The court administrator and staff have many statutory and administrative responsibilities including: managing the judicial department, screening cases for oral argument and case routing, writing case statements, gathering statistical data on judicial business at all levels, apportioning judicial magistrates among the counties, computing the district court judgeship formula, conducting educational programs for judicial officers and support staff, recommending improvements in the organization and operation of the judicial system, administering the judicial retirement system, handling fiscal and personnel matters,

planning and budgeting for the judicial department, providing administrative assistance to various court-appointed committees, and attending to such matters as the supreme court may direct. The court administrator serves as the executive secretary for the Judicial Qualifications Commission and secretary to the State Judicial Nominating Commission; the court administrator is also a member of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Agency and the State Library Commission.

The clerk of the supreme court also serves as the clerk of the court of appeals. The clerk dockets and monitors all cases appealed to the court, collects court fees, files legal briefs, and appendices, and records and files every opinion and order of the appellate courts. The clerk is responsible for the sale of court opinions, the administration of the biannual Iowa bar examination, and the election of attorney-members to the state and judicial election district nominating commissions. The clerk of the supreme court also collects and accounts for all fees associated with the state bar examination and the shorthand reporter examination and certification.

Boards and Commissions

In its role as supervisor of the Iowa bar, the supreme court appoints the members of the Board of Law Examiners and confirms as commissioners of the court the members of the Grievance Commission and the Committee on Professional Ethics and Conduct. In 1973, with the assistance of The Iowa State Bar Association, the court established the Client Security and Attorney Disciplinary System designed to prevent defalcations by members of the Iowa bar and provide for the payment of losses caused to the public by dishonest conduct of Iowa attorneys. The court appointed a seven-member commission to administer the fund resulting from an annual assessment imposed on attorneys. In 1975, the supreme court ordered that all Iowa lawyers and judges complete a minimum of 15 hours of continuing legal education each year. Effective January 15, 1988, a minimum of two hours every two calendar years shall be devoted exclusively to the area of legal ethics. A 12-member Commission on Continuing Legal Education exercises general supervisory authority over the administration of this rule.

On December 28, 1984, the Supreme Court of Iowa, upon petition of The Iowa State Bar Association, established an Interest on Lawyers' Trust Account program (IOLTA), effective July 1, 1985. Attorneys in Iowa are required to deposit clients' funds in interest-bearing trust accounts. However, under this program, sums that are too small or held for too short a time to cover the cost of maintaining the accounts are required to be deposited by attorneys into a pooled interest-bearing trust account. Any interest resulting from the pooled account is transmitted to the Lawyer Trust Account Commission, a seven-member body of both lawyers and laypersons appointed by the supreme court to administer the IOLTA program. Funds received in the IOLTA program are used primarily to assist in providing legal services to the poor in civil cases. Other public purposes related to improving the administration of justice also are eligible. The supreme court determines the actual allocation of IOLTA funds. As of January 1, 1991 IOLTA grants totaling over $4 million have been awarded.

The supreme court is responsible for promulgating rules of evidence, appellate, civil, criminal, juvenile, and probate procedure. The court also is authorized to prescribe rules of evidence, pleading, practice, and procedure, and the forms of process, writs, and notices for all proceedings concerning hospitalization of mentally ill persons and chemical substance abuse. In exercising its rulemaking authority, the supreme court is assisted by several committees including: (1) the Supreme Court Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure; (2) the Advisory Committee on Rules of Criminal Procedure; (3) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Iowa Rules of Evidence; (4) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Juvenile Procedure; and (5) the Probate Rules Committee.

Court Reorganization

In recent years the administrative responsibilities of the state court administrator and supreme court have increased dramatically as the size of the judicial department has grown to approximately 1,900 employees. The 1983 Court Reorganization Act provided state funding for court support staff and a five-year implementation phase-in by functional area as follows: October 1, 1983 - jury fees and mileage: July 1, 1984 - court reporters, and witness fees and mileage; January 1, 1985 - court attendants; July 1, 1985 - juvenile referees, juvenile court officers, and staff; July 1, 1986 - district court clerks and staff, probate referees, judicial hospitalization referees, and incidental judicial expenses; and July 1, 1987 - indigent defense costs. Court reorganization was completed in 1987. [In 1989, administrative responsibility for adult and juvenile indigent defense costs at the state level was transferred from the Iowa Judicial Department to the Department of Inspections and Appeals.]

The supreme court appointed advisory committees from different components joining the judicial department to assist the court in implementing a smooth transition. A personnel system and a "comparable worth" pay plan for all judicial employees has been established. The state court administrator is the public employer of court employees for purposes of public employment relations.

The supreme court also is assisted by eight chief judges and district court administrators who supervise judicial officers and employees in their respective districts. Although funding is now centralized, most of the day-to-day administration is done at the district level where budgets are developed and expenditures are monitored. The supreme court and staff review all budget requests, prepare a departmental budget, and present the budget request to the legislative branch. A budget summary is attached to the chief justice's annual "State of the Judiciary" message.

Budget

The 1990 Session of the 74th General Assembly appropriated $74,876,679 to finance the operation and administration of the Judicial Department for fiscal year ending June 30, 1991. This figure includes appropriations for the supreme court, court of appeals, state court administrator's office, district court administration, court-related boards and commissions, jury and witness fees, the salaries and travel expenses of all judicial officers, referees, and support staff, and the offices of district court clerks and juvenile court services.

The general fund appropriation for the Iowa Judicial Department represented only 2.4 percent of the total state general fund appropriation of $3,144,225,523. The department's budget is summarized in the chart below.

CHART 2

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT BUDGET
July 1, 1990 - June 30, 1991

	Fiscal Year 1991 Budget
Appellate Courts	$ 2,539,797
State Administration	3,360,128
District Court Administration	5,690,404
Court Reporters	7,148,455
Juvenile Court Officers	10,320,733
Clerks of Court	26,142,903
Judges and Magistrates	15,935,893
Jury and Witness Fees	1,700,000
Child Support	538,366
ICIS Separate Appropriation	1,500,000
TOTAL	$74,876,679*

*Original appropriation – deappropriation and supplemental in 1991 not included.

Work Load

During 1990, the Supreme Court of Iowa disposed of 411 cases by written opinion -- 263 civil, 135 criminal, and 13 disciplinary. **[Table 1]** As illustrated in the chart below, the number of formal opinions decreased 6.6 percent (440 to 411) from 1989 to 1990. The fluctuation in the number of per curiam opinions during the last few years is primarily the result of the use of the fast-track decision process whereby less complex cases are submitted without oral argument to rotating three-justice panels. Of the 162 per curiam opinions filed in 1990, 125 were handled by fast-track procedure.

Year	Signed Court Opinions	Unsigned Per Curiam Opinions	Total
1990	249	162	411
1989	257	183	440
1988	264	95	359
1987	244	96	340
1986	272	72	344
1985	273	31	304
1984	270	53	323
1983	281	174	455
1982	289	178	467
1981	278	105	383
1980	250	25	275

As illustrated in **Table 2**, 84.4 percent of the cases (347 of 411) decided by formal opinion were appealed to the supreme court as a matter of right. There were 285 appeals from final judgments in the district court, 9 appeals from interlocutory rules, 28 postconviction appeals, 11 attorney disciplinary actions, 2 cases involving certified questions of law from the U.S. District Court, and 12 cases by miscellaneous modes of review. The Supreme Court of Iowa exercised discretionary review in only 64 cases -- 57 cases appealed from the court of appeals and 7 original certiorari cases.

Table 3 shows the most numerous types of civil cases disposed of by written opinion concerned torts (49), contracts (47), administrative law (36), and postconviction relief (29). Of the 135 criminal cases, 43 involved guilty pleas and/or sentencing issues, exclusively.

In addition to writing 411 opinions during 1990, the nine supreme court justices registered 17 dissents and 4 special concurrences. Discounting fast-track cases, their opinions totaled 3,110 pages or 346 pages per judge on double-spaced, letter-size paper. Excluding fast-tracks, the average supreme court opinion was 10.9 pages in length. Ninety-six percent of the rulings (394 of 411) were approved by a unanimous vote of the justices.

Cases filed before the supreme court dropped 1.4 percent from 1,981 (1989) to 1,954 (1990). Since 1977, civil filings have soared 77.1 percent (785 to 1,390) while criminal cases have climbed 26.5 percent (446 to 564) for a combined total increase of 58.7 percent. [Table 12]

Table 4 indicates the number of civil and criminal cases "In Work," "Ready," "Assigned", and "Out-to-Judges" which were pending as of December 31, 1988, 1989, and 1990. From December 31, 1988, to the end of 1990, the number of cases "In Work" decreased 0.2 percent (836 to 834); the number of cases "Ready" for disposition rose 11 percent (191 to 212). The total number of pending cases increased by 77 cases (1,088 to 1,165) or 7.1 percent.

When the pending cases in both appellate courts are examined, figures show an overall increase of 7.3 percent (1,307 to 1,403) in the number of pending cases from December 31, 1989, to the end of 1990. Including cases assigned and submitted but not decided, the number of cases ready for disposition (i.e., all necessary papers filed) jumped 17.8 percent (483 to 569) during 1990.

As noted in Table 5, the average elapse time from "Ready" for submission to supreme court decision was 4.8 months in 1990. The processing time for civil, priority civil, and criminal cases in 1990 was 6.2, 3.0, and 3.0 months, respectively.

An examination of the direction of the supreme court decisions during 1990, indicates that 65 percent of the district court rulings were affirmed by the court, 21 percent were reversed, and 14 percent were mixed. (A "mixed" supreme court decision is defined as a ruling which both "affirms" and "modifies" or "reverses" parts of a district court ruling.) Eighty-one cases involving such matters as attorney disciplinary actions, appeals from the court of appeals, certification of questions of law, and original jurisdiction matters were not classified or included in the disposition direction computation.

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
Affirmed	53%	67%	64%	62%	60%	61%	60%	60%	64%	66%	65%
Reversed	33%	23%	23%	25%	27%	29%	29%	25%	27%	22%	21%
Mixed	14%	10%	13%	13%	13%	10%	11%	15%	9%	12%	14%

Sixty-three percent of the cases (257/411) disposed of by written opinion were appealed from the trial courts of 11 urban counties. Nearly one-fourth of the cases arose in Polk County.

Counties	Number of Cases	Percentage of Total Cases Disposed
Polk	95	23.1%
Linn	29	7.1%
Scott	25	6.1%
Black Hawk	17	4.1%
Woodbury	17	4.1%
Lee	16	3.9%
Dubuque	14	3.4%
Jones	12	2.9%
Pottawattamie	11	2.7%
Johnson	11	2.7%
Story	10	2.4%
TOTAL	257	62.5%

In addition to the 411 supreme court cases disposed of by formal opinion after submission to the court, 1,590 cases (1,162 civil and 428 criminal) were disposed of by court order, consolidation, dismissal by the clerk for failure to cure a default or by voluntary action by the parties involved. **Table 6** shows 64 cases were dismissed by order of the supreme court; 238 orders were issued denying petitions for various types of review; 70 cases were dismissed by the clerk for failure to cure a default after notice; 355 cases were voluntarily withdrawn by the parties; 27 cases were consolidated; 743 cases were transferred by order of the supreme court to the court of appeals, and 93 were disposed of by other means. In total, 2,001 filings were disposed of by the supreme court in 1990. Excluding cases transferred to the court of appeals, the supreme court disposed of 1,258 appeals in 1990.

A significant amount of judge-time also was spent ruling on preliminary motions and applications, conducting hearings, and writing 4,587 orders which did not result in the disposal of a case. [The clerk's office issued an additional 1,936 nondispository orders and 777 default notices.] Excluding orders transferring cases to the court of appeals, the number of dispository and nondispository orders issued by the supreme court and clerk's office during the 1980's is illustrated on the next page.

YEAR	DISPOSITORY ORDERS	NONDISPOSITORY ORDERS
1990	847	6,523
1989	833	6,084
1988	831	5,596
1987	921	4,837
1986	1,109	4,955
1985	1,068	5,128
1984	1,002	4,974
1983	893	5,071
1982	923	4,939
1981	822	5,006
1980	838	4,220

In recent years, several major structural and procedural changes have contributed to the supreme court's ability to handle an increasing number of appeals. One important innovation has been the reinstitution of a practice prevalent from 1929-43; namely, hearing and deciding cases in divisions of five members. Instead of spending four days a month in court hearing oral arguments, each justice now spends two days hearing oral arguments. (During the monthly court week, Wednesday and sometimes part of Thursday morning, generally are reserved for conference and administrative matters.) Except in the most complex and controversial cases in which two or more justices request disposition en banc (by the full nine-member court), cases before the supreme court are decided by division. The drafts of all proposed opinions are circulated to the entire court. At any time prior to final approval of a proposed opinion, any two justices may request that a specific case be decided en banc. The appellate screening staff initially examines all cases and recommends to a three-justice screening panel whether a case should be submitted en banc or to a division; staff attorneys also recommend the amount of oral argument time, if any, which should be allotted to each case, and whether the case should be retained by the supreme court or transferred to the court of appeals.

As noted in **Table 7**, 382 of the 411 supreme court decisions were decided by a division or panel of the nine-member court. There were 257 cases decided by rotating panels of five justices; 125 cases were disposed of by three-justice fast-track panels. Only 7.1 percent of the cases disposed of in 1990 were decided by all nine justices sitting en banc.

In addition to using judicial panels to hear and decide cases, the court also has conserved time by reducing the number of cases permitted oral argument and limiting the amount of time each party can use in presenting its case. While before 1973 the court allowed 75 minutes to argue a case, today most oral arguments are limited to approximately 35 minutes. In 1990, over half of the cases were submitted to the supreme court without oral argument.

The number and percentage of appeals submitted to the supreme court without oral argument since 1980, are shown below.

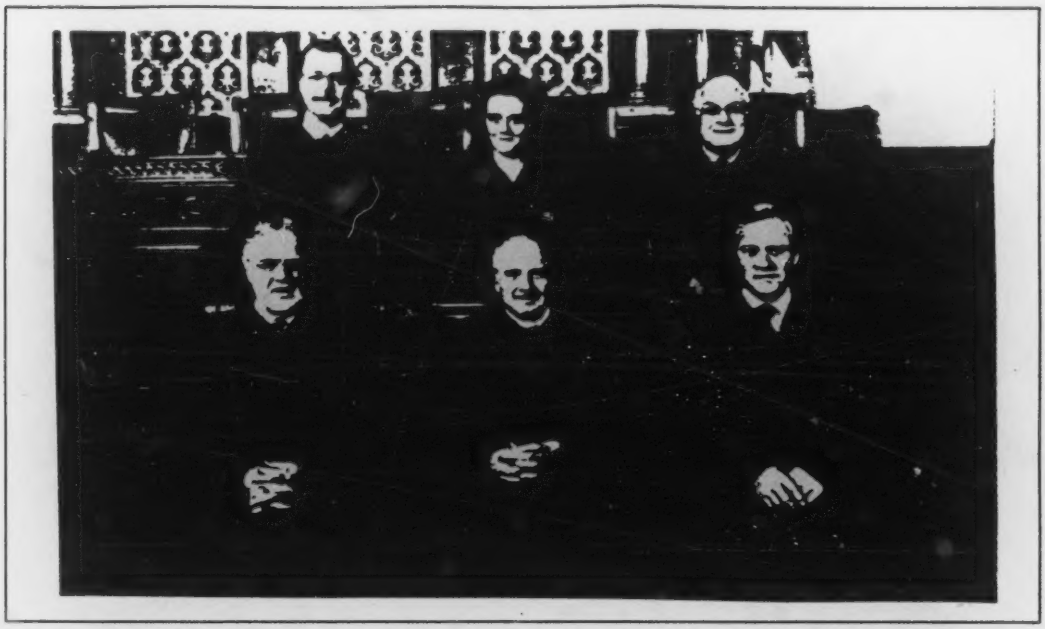
SUBMISSIONS TO THE SUPREME COURT				
YEAR	ORAL	NON-ORAL	TOTAL	PERCENT NON-ORAL
1990	230	235	465	50.5%
1989	240	202	442	45.7%
1988	256	106	362	29.3%
1987	226	144	370	38.9%
1986	229	105	334	31.4%
1985	250	53	303	17.5%
1984	234	76	310	24.5%
1983	257	193	450	43.5%
1982	264	217	481	45.1%
1981	254	136	390	34.9%
1980	236	46	282	16.3%

Other factors playing crucial roles in alleviating some of the court's research and administrative burdens include: the research of legal assistants, the case statements, court orders, and screening recommendations drafted by the screening staff, and various administrative tasks performed by the state court administrator's office and staff, and the clerk's office.

THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS

In 1976, the 66th General Assembly established a new five-member appellate court designated as the Iowa Court of Appeals; in 1983 a sixth member was added. The new court began hearing oral arguments and deciding cases in January 1977. The members of the Iowa Court of Appeals listed in order of seniority are: Allen L. Donielson (Des Moines), Leo Oxberger, Chief Judge (Des Moines), Dick R. Schlegel (Ottumwa), Maynard J. V. Hayden (Indianola), Rosemary Shaw Sackett (Okoboji), and Albert L. Habhab (Fort Dodge).

The court of appeals is authorized to review all civil and criminal actions, postconviction remedy proceedings, small claims actions, writs, orders, and other processes transferred to it by the supreme court. The Iowa Court of Appeals hears only the cases transferred to it by the supreme court. All cases continue to be appealed directly to the supreme court.



The judges of the Iowa Court of Appeals are: (seated) Allen L. Donielson, Chief Judge Leo Oxberger, and Dick R. Schlegel, (standing) Maynard J. V. Hayden, Rosemary Shaw Sackett, and Albert L. Habhab.

Work load

As indicated in **Table 8**, during 1990, the six-member court of appeals disposed of 662 cases or 524 civil and 138 criminal. There were 94 per curiam opinions, 551 signed opinions, and 17 cases dismissed by order. Since the court of appeals was established in late 1976 and began deciding cases in 1977, it has disposed of 7,455 cases (5,531 civil and 1,924 criminal). There were 179 civil and 59 criminal cases pending before the court of appeals at the end of 1990.

The number and type of cases disposed of by formal written opinion are illustrated in **Table 9**. As noted in this table, the court of appeals disposed of 197 domestic relations cases (108 involving child custody), 92 contract cases, 66 tort cases, 42 administrative law matters, 35 postconviction relief cases, and 20 property matters. Eight of the 138 criminal cases disposed of involved exclusively sentencing or guilty plea issues.

Of the 637 cases classified by disposition, 432 or 67.8 percent were affirmed, 87 or 13.7 percent were reversed, and 118 or 18.5 percent were a combination of the two, modified or remanded only.

An overwhelming majority of the cases were heard and decided by a three-member division of the court. Only 45 of the 645 formal decisions or 7 percent were decided en banc, by a vote of all six judges on the court.

During 1990, the supreme court considered 341 applications for further review and granted review in 58 cases or 17 percent of the applications. Of the 57 court of appeals rulings reviewed by the supreme court in 1990, 32 were vacated and 25 were affirmed.

The average delay from the time a case was "ready" for submission to "decision" by the court of appeals was 5.9 months, down from 6.1 the year before and over six months less than appellate delay in 1977, the court's first year of operation. **[Table 11]** In 1990, the average elapse time for non-priority civil cases was 6.7 months; the delay was 16.1 months in 1977. The average delay in case processing in 1990 was the third highest since 1978.

Of the 616 cases submitted to the court of appeals in 1990, 328 or 53.2 percent were heard on the record without oral argument. Many of these cases were handled as fast-tracks.

On the average, each judge wrote approximately 108 court opinions. Dissents were registered in only 65 of the 645 formal opinions or 10.1 percent of the rulings.

Excluding fast-tracks, formal opinions totaled 4,764 pages, an average of 7.4 pages per case or 794 pages per judge, counting the title page. The number of opinion-pages was down 343 pages from the 1989 total of 5,107 pages. Opinions ranged in length from 2 to 33 pages on double-spaced, letter-size paper.

Of the 645 dispositions by formal opinion, 333 or 51.6 percent were appealed from eight counties: Polk (110), Black Hawk (48), Linn (47), Scott (40), Woodbury (26), Johnson (23), Dubuque (20), and Pottawattamie (19). During 1990, the court of appeals decided cases from 87 of the 99 counties in Iowa.

Iowa Appellate Courts -- Statistical Summary

There were 1,954 cases -- 1,390 civil and 564 criminal -- filed in the supreme court in 1990, down from 1,981 in 1989. The number of appellate case filings from 1978 to 1990 is graphically illustrated in **Table 12**. Since 1978, civil filings have climbed 38.6 percent (1,003 to 1,390) while the number of criminal cases docketed has climbed 15.8 percent (487 to 564). In 1990, there were approximately 130 filings per appellate judge.

During 1990, the supreme court and the court of appeals disposed of 1,920 cases -- 1,359 civil (including 13 attorney disciplinary cases) and 561 criminal -- a 7.3 percent decrease from the 2,072 cases disposed of in 1989. Forty-two percent of the civil dispositions (576/1,359) and 51 percent of the criminal dispositions (288/561) were by order rather than formal opinion.

There were 1,403 cases pending (993 civil and 410 criminal) at the end of the year -- an increase of 96 or 7.3 percent from the first of the year. The number of pending cases ready for disposition increased 17.8 percent (483 to 569) during 1990.

There were 1,056 dispositions by formal opinion -- 783 civil and 273 criminal. During 1990, the average case was decided approximately one year after it was docketed in the supreme court clerk's office. In the average case the parties required nearly seven months to file the briefs, records, etc., and make the case ready for submission to the court; the elapse time from readiness to decision was approximately five and one-half months.

The largest category of civil cases handled at the appellate level by formal opinion was domestic relations -- 225 of 770 civil cases (excluding disciplinary cases) or 29.2 percent. The number and types of other civil cases decided by formal opinion in the appellate courts were as follows: contracts, 139; torts, 115; administrative law, 78; and postconviction relief, 64.

The supreme court disbarred or revoked the licenses of three attorneys, suspended the licenses of 31 lawyers, and reprimanded 13 attorneys. The licenses of nine attorneys were reinstated. In 1989, the number of attorneys disbarred, suspended, and reprimanded were two, 26, and eight, respectively. Thirteen disciplinary cases were disposed of by a formal opinion of the supreme court; in 1989 there were 10 such rulings.

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL, AND DISCIPLINARY CASES[a] TERMINATED BY FORMAL OPINION SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1977-1990

YEAR	CIVIL[b]	CRIMINAL[c]	DISCIPLINARY[d]	TOTAL
1990	263	135	13	411
1989	289	141	10	440
1988	272	69	18	359
1987	224	91	25	340
1986	237	89	18	344
1985	245	46	13	304
1984	209	100	14	323
1983	301	149	5	455
1982	295	161	11	467
1981	208	171	4	383
1980	187	84	4	275
1979	202	81	7	290
1978	245	103	9	357
1977	252	118	4	374
TOTAL	3,429	1,538	155	5,122

[a]Where two or more related cases were consolidated for purposes of decision-making and resolved by one court opinion, only one of the combined cases was counted in computing the total number of dispositions by opinion. In 1990, the 411 supreme court decisions involved 438 case filings.

[b]The "civil" case category in this report includes appeals from final denials of postconviction relief and all certiorari cases.

[c]"Criminal" means direct appeals from final judgment in criminal cases.

[d]Includes only the bar disciplinary proceedings disposed of by written opinion and published in the North Western Reporter.

TABLE 2

FORMAL DISPOSITIONS BY THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA AS CLASSIFIED BY MODE OF REVIEW – 1984-1990

MODE OF REVIEW	NUMBER OF FORMAL DISPOSITIONS						
	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
Appeal from Final Order (judgment) in District Court							
Civil Case	134	164	166	161	211	194	171
Criminal Case	86	33	79	77	60	114	114
Original Certiorari							
Civil Case	6	10	6	3	4	3	4
Criminal Case	3	3	2	3	1	3	3
Appeal from Interlocutory Ruling	26	29	22	9	6	10	9
Discretionary Review of Small Claim	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
Certified Question of Law	4	1	2	3	1	2	2
Appeal in Postconviction Relief Proceeding	16	15	9	9	14	42	28
Lawyer Disciplinary	14	13[a]	18	25	18	10	11
Further Review	23	38	45	43	39	54	57
Miscellaneous	11	6	6	7	4	7	12
TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	313	303	344	340	359	440	411

[a]Includes one judge disciplinary case.

TABLE 3

NUMBER AND TYPE OF CASES DISPOSED OF BY SUPREME COURT OPINION, 1984-1990

CASE TYPE	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
CIVIL							
Administrative law	31	56	56	46	52	36	36
Contracts	30	35	30	43	55	33	47
Contested child custody	7	7	10	7	8	14	10
Domestic relations not involving child custody	19	10	23	18	23	28	18
Postconviction relief	18	16	12	11	17	44	29
Property	17	18	12	19	21	18	13
Taxation	2	8	3	4	6	4	3
Tort	39	50	62	45	56	54	49
Trusts, estates, wills	10	6	2	12	5	9	10
Other	36	39	27	18	29	49	48
TOTAL CIVIL	**209**	**245**	**237**	**223**	**272**	**289**	**263**
CRIMINAL							
Guilty plea only	2	0	6	2	7	8	7
Sentencing only	10	10	12	18	19	37	32
Guilty plea and sentencing only	4	1	4	2	1	5	4
Other	84	35	67	70	42	91	92
TOTAL CRIMINAL	**100**	**46**	**89**	**92**	**69**	**141**	**135**
LAWYER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS	14	13[a]	18	25	18	10	13
TOTAL	**323**	**304**	**344**	**340**	**359**	**440**	**411**

[a]Includes one judge disciplinary case.

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES: IN WORK[a], READY[b], ASSIGNED[c], AND OUT-TO-SUPREME COURT JUSTICES[d] A COMPARISON OF CASELOADS DECEMBER 31, 1988, 1989 AND 1990

	1988			1989			1990		
	Civil	Criminal	Total	Civil	Criminal	Total	Civil	Criminal	Total
In Work	555	281	836	564	260	824	540	294	834
Ready	163	28	191[e]	223	42	265[e]	178	34	212[e]
Assigned	23	4	27	22	5	27	24	3	27
Out-to-Justice	24	10	34	27	12	39	72	20	92
TOTAL	765	323	1,088	836	319	1,155	814	351	1,165

[a]In Work - All cases docketed which are not yet ready for submission.

[b]Ready - All cases ready for submission.

[c]Assigned - All cases which have been assigned to the justices and will be submitted or formally presented to the court within a month.

[d]Out-to-Justices - All cases submitted to the court which have not been decided.

[e]For purposes of this table, the 726, 678, and 743 cases transferred to the court of appeals in 1988, 1989, and 1990, respectively, were deducted from the number of ready cases pending before the supreme court.

TABLE 5

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1976-1990

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	AVERAGE DELAY
1990	6.2	3.0	3.0	4.8
1989	6.4	2.9	2.8	4.6
1988	7.8	3.4	3.4	6.6
1987	6.8	3.7	3.9	5.8
1986	4.9	3.4	3.5	4.5
1985	6.1	4.0	3.8	5.6
1984	6.2	4.1	4.1	5.4
1983	6.8	3.8	3.7	5.5
1982	7.5	4.6	3.8	5.9
1981	5.9	4.7	4.9	5.2
1980	5.2	4.3	4.8	5.0
1979	5.4	4.0	4.4	5.0
1978	8.3	4.1	4.2	6.5
1977	17.0	4.3	4.5	12.2
1976	20.2	4.0	3.8	9.0

TABLE 6
DISPOSITION OF CASES AT THE SUPREME COURT LEVEL BY ORDER OR OTHER MODE PRIOR TO FORMAL SUBMISSION TO THE COURT - 1990

TYPE OF DISPOSITION	NUMBER OF DISPOSITIONS		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
Voluntary dismissal or withdrawal of appeal or other review by appellant	241	114	355
Dismissal by the clerk pursuant to Rule 19, R.App.P., for failure to cure default within 15 days after notice	46	24	70
Dismissal by court for failure to comply with Rules of Appellate Procedure	1	0	1
Dismissal by court for lack of jurisdiction	0	0	0
Dismissal by court of frivolous criminal appeal pursuant to Rule 104, R.App.P.	0	63	63
Denial of petition for permission to appeal an interlocutory ruling	122	0	122
Denial of petition for writ of certiorari	33	5	38
Denial of petition for discretionary review	28	50	78
Cases transferred to the court of appeals by order of the supreme court	603	140	743
Consolidations[a]	16	11	27
Other	72	21	93
TOTALS	1,162	428	1,590

[a]For purposes of this table, cases were classified as consolidated at the time an order granting consolidation was filed.

TABLE 7

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL, AND DISCIPLINARY CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION OF THE SUPREME COURT EN BANC AND BY DIVISION, 1988-1990

	EN BANC			DIVISION			PERCENT EN BANC		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990
CIVIL	28	21	22	244	268	241	10.3	7.3	8.4
CRIMINAL	4	3	4	65	138	131	5.8	2.1	3.0
DISCIPLINARY	4	3	3	14	7	10	22.2	30.0	23.1
TOTAL	36	27	29	323	413	382	10.0	6.1	7.1

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES TRANSFERRED TO, TERMINATED BY, AND PENDING BEFORE THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS 1977-1990

	TRANSFERRED			TERMINATED			PENDING END OF YEAR		
YEAR	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1990	603	140	743	524	138	662	179	59	238
1989	519	159	678	622	177	799	95	57	152
1988	555	173	728	512	157	669	198	75	273
1987	482	136	618	428	150	578	155	57	212
1986	392	160	552	440	156	596	99	71	170
1985	524	203	727	459	178	637	147	67	214
1984	412	157	569	397	135	532	80	41	121
1983	330	119	449	405	150	555	65	19	84
1982	397	134	531	307	116	423	140	50	190
1981	305	149	454	348	163	511	50	32	82
1980	344	116	460	303	94	397	93	46	139
1979	263	114	377	259	120	379	52	24	76
1978	245	125	370	267	117	384	48	30	78
1977	330	95	425[a]	260	73	333	70	22	92
TOTAL	5,701	1,980	7,681	5,531	1,924	7,455	1,471	650	2,121

[a]Includes 69 cases - 56 civil and 13 criminal - transferred to the court of appeals in late 1976.

TABLE 9

NUMBER AND TYPE OF CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION
IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1985-1990

CASE TYPE	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
CIVIL						
Administrative law	34	45	44	40	46	42
Contracts	74	61	60	70	104	92
Contested child custody	51	89	83	120	119	108
Domestic relations not involving child custody	106	93	96	122	136	89
Postconviction relief	35	31	27	22	41	35
Property	44	33	25	23	31	20
Taxation	8	4	4	4	2	6
Tort	37	42	50	60	75	66
Trusts, estates, wills	23	17	18	12	24	20
Other	38	20	15	24	30	29
TOTAL CIVIL	**450**	**435**	**422**	**497**	**608**	**507**
CRIMINAL						
Guilty plea only	4	2	8	5	0	1
Sentencing only	20	6	3	9	5	5
Guilty plea an sentencing only	2	1	4	2	7	3
Other	152	145	133	141	164	129
TOTAL CRIMINAL	**178**	**154**	**148**	**157**	**176**	**138**
TOTAL	**628**	**589**	**570**	**654**	**784**	**645**

TABLE 10

APPLICATIONS TO THE SUPREME COURT FOR FURTHER REVIEW

YEAR	APPLICATIONS GRANTED			APPLICATIONS DENIED			PERCENT GRANTED
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	
1990	44	14	58	203	80	283	17.0%
1989	32	22	54	224	87	311	14.8%
1988	40	13	53	167	94	261	16.9%
1987	25	12	37	127	64	191	16.2%
1986	48	12	60	132	89	221	21.4%
1985	33	10	43	173	90	263	14.1%
1984	33	11	44	135	62	197	18.3%
1983	16	7	23	114	60	174	11.7%
1982	12	7	19	125	48	173	9.9%
1981	11	5	16	88	31	119	11.9%
1980	11	2	13	106	38	144	8.3%
1979	6	6	12	78	54	132	8.3%
1978	17	4	21	78	38	116	15.3%
1977	6	4	10	54	16	70	12.5%
TOTAL	334	129	463	1,804	851	2,655	14.9%

TABLE 11

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME
A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION
IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1977-1990

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			AVERAGE DELAY
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	
1990	6.7	4.4	5.2	5.9
1989	6.8	4.5	5.2	6.1
1988	6.5	4.8	5.4	5.8
1987	6.4	5.0	5.1	5.8
1986	5.5	4.4	4.5	5.0
1985	5.8	4.8	4.7	5.2
1984	5.1	4.4	4.3	4.8
1983	6.3	5.0	5.2	5.7
1982	6.9	5.2	5.3	6.2
1981	5.8	5.0	5.0	5.5
1980	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
1979	5.2	4.2	4.6	4.9
1978	3.7	4.0	4.1	5.8
1977	16.1	4.6	4.6	12.5

TABLE 12

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES FILED AT THE APPELLATE COURT LEVEL 1977-1990

YEAR	CIVIL[a]	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1990	1,390	564	1,954
1989	1,440	541	1,981
1988	1,454	446	1,900
1987	1,337	485	1,822
1986	1,415	465	1,880
1985	1,362	539	1,901
1984	1,297	587	1,884
1983	1,290	491	1,781
1982	1,253	596	1,849
1981	1,175	558	1,733
1980	1,081	539	1,620
1979	1,014	493	1,507
1978	1,003	487	1,490
1977	785	446	1,231
TOTAL	17,296	7,237	24,533
13-Year Increase in Percent	77.1%	26.5%	58.7%

[a]Includes attorney disciplinary cases.

II. TRIAL COURT

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

The unified trial court, known as the "Iowa District Court", became operative July 1, 1973. The district court has general and original jurisdiction of all actions and proceedings, including probate and juvenile matters. Its jurisdiction is exercised by senior judges, district judges, district associate judges, alternate district associate judges, and magistrates. The salary and travel expenses of all judges and magistrates are funded by the state.

The Unified Trial Court Act requires the clerks of the district court to furnish each magistrate, associate judge, or district judge acting as a magistrate, a docket in which to enter all proceedings within their jurisdiction, except those required to be docketed with the clerks and assigned to judicial officers for disposition. The chief judge of a judicial district is authorized to order criminal proceedings combined in a centralized docket.

Magistrates

The Unified Trial Court Act created and allotted 191 part-time magistrate positions to the 99 counties in the state, ranging from one to six per county. The original allotment remained in effect until June 30, 1975. Since that date, the state court administrator has apportioned magistrates among the counties.

A magistrate appointing commission selects the magistrates to fill positions allotted to the county. The person appointed must be an elector of the county and less than 72 years of age. In 1989, the magistrates' term of office was increased from two to four years. Although a license to practice law is not required, the commission must first consider licensed attorneys. In counties allotted only one such position, the appointing commission is authorized to appoint an additional magistrate and divide the statutory salary. (Adair, Ida, and Monona Counties exercised this option in 1990.) The apportionment made in 1989 appears in **Appendix E**.

As amended, the Unified Trial Court Act authorizes any county or combination of counties with an allotment of three or more magistrate positions to appoint a district associate judge to substitute for three part-time magistrates. The substitution may not occur if it results in the lack of either a resident district associate judge or a magistrate in one or more of the counties. The substitution is made by order of the chief judge of the judicial district on the affirmative vote of a majority of the district judges in the judicial election district in which the county is located. District associate judges serving in lieu of magistrates are nominated, appointed, and retained in the same manner as regular district associate judges. As they also have the same qualifications, rights, salary, duties, responsibilities, authority, and jurisdiction as regular district associate judges, their work load is totally integrated in this report.

Jurisdiction

Magistrates have jurisdiction of the following:

1. Preliminary hearing cases. [Cases in which they act as committing magistrates on felonies and indictable misdemeanors.] (R.Cr.P. 2(4)(a).

2. Nonindictable or simple misdemeanors, including traffic and ordinance violations. [A simple misdemeanor is a criminal offense in which the punishment does not exceed a fine of $100 or imprisonment for 30 days.]

3. County and city infractions.

4. Search warrant proceedings.

5. Emergency hospitalization proceedings. (§ 229.22, The Code.)

6. Lost property actions. [These include issuing a warrant directing a peace officer to appoint appraisers to fix the value of vessels, rafts, logs and lumber which have been stopped or taken up and determining the ownership of other lost property.] (Chapter 644.)

The above proceedings are all required to be entered in the docket furnished to them by the clerk or in the centralized docket for the county, if one is ordered to be maintained by the chief judge of the judicial district.

7. Small claims. [A small claim includes: (1) a civil action for a money judgment where the amount in controversy is $2,000 or less, exclusive of interest and costs, (2) an action for forcible entry and detainer where no question of title to the property is involved, and (3) an action of replevin where the value of the property claimed is $2,000 or less.]

The clerk of the district court is required to maintain the docket for small claims actions. If the action is one for money judgment and it is not disposed of by the clerk through entry of a confession of judgment, default judgment or a voluntary dismissal, it must be assigned to a judicial officer having jurisdiction of such actions. This is done by delivering the original notice first filed with the clerk to the officer. If it is an action for forcible entry and detainer, the appearance is required before the judicial officer who must handle the entire proceeding, including an order for the issuance of a writ of eviction if the plaintiff prevails. Again, the assignment is perfected by the clerk delivering the original notice first filed and all papers in the case to the judicial officer.

The record of all actions taken by the judicial officer in either type of small claims proceeding, including notes of testimony and judgment entry, is made on the original notice to which exhibits, if any, are attached and returned to the clerk. It serves as a calendar sheet from which the clerk makes proper entries in the small claims docket and on the lien index. Small claims actions are not entered in the docket furnished to judicial officers by the clerk or in the centralized docket used for criminal proceedings.

District Associate Judges

The original act provided for 30 magistrates required to devote full time to their position. One to four positions were authorized to counties in four population categories ranging from 35,000 to over 200,000. The 25 municipal court judges holding office June 30, 1973, became district associate judges and satisfied the requirement of a regular full-time magistrate in the county of their residence. Upon the death, resignation, retirement, removal or nonretention of a district associate judge, a full-time magistrate was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Effective January 1, 1981, full-time magistrates were renamed district associate judges. District associate judges serve four-year terms and stand for retention in office in their judicial election district the same as district judges.

In counties having only one district associate judge, the county magistrate appointing commission is authorized to appoint an alternate district associate judge to act in the temporary absence of a district associate judge. Such alternate is paid on a per diem basis by the state for days of actual service rendered. In 1990, an alternate district associate judge served in Dickinson, Jasper, Marshall, Marion, and Warren Counties.

The number of district associate judges by judicial election district and county is illustrated below.

Judicial Election District	County	District Associate Judges
1A	Dubuque	2
1B	Black Hawk	3
2A	Cerro Gordo	1
2B	Boone-Hamilton	1
2B	Marshall	1
2B	Webster	1
2B	Story	2
3A	Dickinson	1
3A	Buena Vista-Cherokee-Clay	1
3A	Emmet-Kossuth	1
3B	Woodbury	3
4	Pottawattamie	3
5A	Jasper	1
5A	Marion-Jasper	1
5A	Warren	1
5C	Polk	6
6	Johnson	2
6	Linn	4
7	Clinton	1
7	Muscatine	1
7	Scott	3
8A	Wapello	1
8A	Mahaska-Poweshiek	1
8B	Des Moines	2
8B	Lee	2
TOTAL		46

Jurisdiction

District associate judges have the same jurisdiction as judicial magistrates. In addition, they have jurisdiction of:

1. civil actions for money judgments where the amount in controversy does not exceed $5,000;
2. indictable (serious and aggravated) misdemeanors;
3. felony violations of § 321.281 (operating while intoxicated -- OWI); and
4. juvenile cases when designated as a judge of the juvenile court by the chief judge of the judicial district.

While exercising such additional jurisdiction, they are not only required to employ district judges' practice and procedure; but, as the cases are docketed with the clerk of the district court, they must be assigned and delivered to the judge with a calendar sheet on which to report the disposition of the case.

Trial by Jury and Appeal Provisions

A defendant charged with a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor is entitled to a trial by a six-member jury if he or she files a written jury demand at least ten days before the time set for trial. Failure to make such demand constitutes a waiver of jury. The plaintiff may appeal only upon a finding of invalidity of an ordinance or statute and the defendant only upon a judgment of conviction. All simple misdemeanor appeals from a decision of a magistrate shall be on the record. Either party may appeal from the judgment of the district judge to the supreme court in the same manner as from a judgment in a prosecution by indictment.

A small claims action is tried before the judicial officer to whom it is assigned without the right to a jury. Either party may appeal to a district court judge who is required to hear the matter on the record. If it appears the trial record is incomplete, the district court judge may take additional testimony and evidence. The right of either party to appeal from the judgment of the district judge is entirely within the discretionary power of the supreme court.

District Court Judges

In January 1990, there were 100 district judges in Iowa. Under the judgeship formula computed in February, 1990, 103 judgeships were authorized. However, because of the statutory freeze on the number of judgeships the vacancies could not be filled. The formula was amended, effective July 1, 1990, to allow one additional judgeship for the location of the state penitentiary; the statutory ceiling on the number of judgeships was raised to 101. The 1990 and 1991 applications of the formula appear at pages 36 and 37 of this report.

For purposes of administration and ordinary judicial functions, the state is divided into eight judicial districts (**Appendix D**). The state is further divided into 14 judicial election districts for purposes stated in the footnote to the map appearing on page 34. With 101 judges serving in the eight judicial districts during the last half of 1990, the population spread per judge ranged from 24,887 in the 8th District to 30,801 in the 6th. (**Appendix C**)

Jurisdiction

District judges possess the full jurisdiction of the trial court, including the jurisdiction of magistrates. While exercising the latter, they are required to employ the practice and procedure for magistrates. Under the Iowa Probate Code they are the only judges sitting in probate.

Senior Judges

Effective July 1, 1979, the Sixty-eighth General Assembly established a senior judge program whereby retired supreme court justices, court of appeals judges, district court judges, and district associate judges who qualify agree to work up to 13 weeks per year until age 78. A senior judge may not practice law.

While serving on temporary assignment, a senior judge is paid no salary but continues to receive monthly judicial retirement annuities. The senior judge program provides a hedge against inflation by mandating an increase in judicial annuity whenever the current salary of active judges is raised. There is no provision for an increase in judicial annuity for judges who do not participate in the senior judge program.

During 1990, one supreme court justice -- W. Ward Reynoldson -- 17 district judges -- Paul E. Hellwege, Robert O. Frederick, R. K. Stohr, Charles W. Antes, Luther T. Glanton, Jr., Dennis D. Damsgaard, Ansel J. Chapman, M. C. Herrick, L. John Degnan, Forest E. Eastman, Murray S. Underwood, Harold J. Swailes, William S. Cahill, Theodore H. Miller, Paul H. Sulhoff, Harry Perkins, Jr., and Jack W. Frye -- and three district associate judges -- Don A. Petrucelli, Frank D. Gilloon, Jr., and John M. Fachman -- served as senior judges in Iowa. During 1990, Judges Missildine and Hellwege resigned as senior judges; Judges Miller, Sulhoff, Perkins, and Frye commenced their duties as senior judges. In this report, the work of these judges is combined with the caseload of the judicial officers with whom they worked.

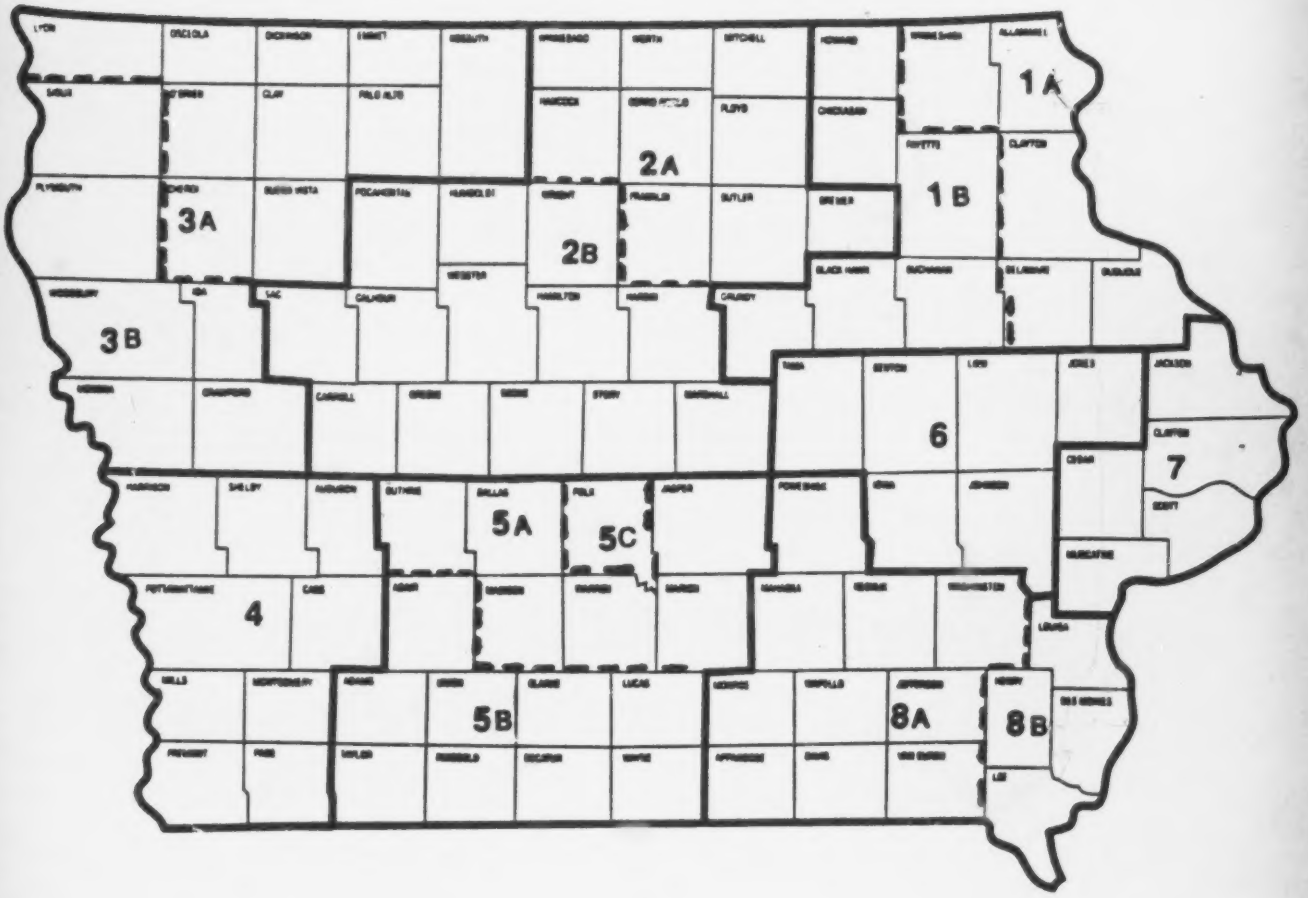
Clerks of District Court

The clerk's office in the 99 counties performed two important functions during 1990 which reduced the work load of the judicial officers in each county. These were:

1. Kept the small claims docket and through the entry of confessions of judgment, default judgments, and voluntary dismissals in actions for money judgment, avoided the necessity of assigning many such cases to judicial officers. [Tables 12(d), 14(e) and 15]

2. Maintained a traffic and scheduled violations office where violations issued on a uniform citation and complaint could be admitted and disposed of upon payment of the minimum fine, surcharge, and costs. [Table 16]

IOWA'S EIGHT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS AND 14 JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICTS *



*Judicial election districts are established for the purpose of nomination, appointment, and election of district judges, application of the judgeship formula, and appointment and election of district associate judges.

Judgeship Formula

The judgeship formula gives equal weight to population and filings. The formula authorizes one judge for every 550 combined civil and criminal filings (3-year average) in judicial election districts having a city of 50,000 or more population and one judge for every 450 such filings in districts not having a city that large. The population factor allows one judge for every 40,000 residents. There is a statutory cap of 101 on the number of district judges authorized, irrespective of the application of the formula.

Application of the judgeship formula for 1990 and 1991, respectively, is illustrated by the tables that follow.

NUMBER OF DISTRICT JUDGES AUTHORIZED BY THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA BASED EQUALLY ON A 3-YEAR AVERAGE OF COMBINED CIVIL AND CRIMINAL FILINGS AND POPULATION

JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICT	FILINGS	POPULATION	FORMULA JUDGESHIPS[c]	RESIDENT JUDGES
1A[a]	2,986 (5.43)	166,500 (4.16)	5	4
1B[a]	4,308 (7.83)	206,400 (5.16)	7	8
2A	3,423 (7.61)	163,400 (4.09)	6	6
2B	6,586 (14.64)	309,200 (7.73)	11	11
3A	3,144 (6.99)	145,500 (3.64)	5	5
3B[a]	5,737 (10.43)	190,200 (4.75)	8	7
4a	4,482 (8.15)	192,600 (4.82)	6	6
5A	3,490 (7.76)	157,100 (3.93)	6	5
5B	1,841 (4.09)	73,600 (1.84)	3	4
5C[a,b]	9,795 (17.81)	324,700 (8.12)	14	13
6[a]	8,401 (15.27)	333,800 (8.35)	12	11
7[a]	7,132 (12.97)	289,200 (7.23)	10	10
8A	3,255 (7.23)	166,300 (4.16)	6	6
8B	2,568 (5.71)	115,500 (2.89)	4	4
STATE TOTALS	67,148	2,834,000	103*	100

[a]District with a city of 50,000 or more population.

[b]One additional judgeship for seat of government.

[c]In judicial election districts containing a city of 50,000 or more population (i.e., 1A, 1B, 3B, 4, 5C, 6 and 7), there shall be one judgeship per 550 combined civil and criminal filings, with exclusions listed in Iowa Code section 602.6201(3), and 40,000 population, giving equal weight to each quotient. All other districts are entitled to one judgeship per 450 filings or 40,000 population. The filing and population quotients are added together, divided by two (averaged), and rounded to the nearest hundredth.

* Although the 1990 application of the judgeship formula created three (3) vacancies, the provisions of Iowa Code § 602.6201, subsection 10, limit the maximum number of district judges to one hundred (100) and, consequently, prohibit the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared by: State Court Administrator, Statehouse, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319
February 23, 1990

NUMBER OF DISTRICT JUDGES AUTHORIZED BY THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA BASED EQUALLY ON A 3-YEAR AVERAGE OF COMBINED CIVIL AND CRIMINAL FILINGS AND POPULATION

JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICT	FILINGS	POPULATION	FORMULA JUDGESHIPS[d]	RESIDENT JUDGES
1A[a]	3,037 (5.52)	158,194 (3.95)	5	4
1B[a]	4,724 (8.59)	201,618 (5.04)	7	8
2A	3,438 (7.64)	157,378 (3.93)	6	6
2B	6,608 (14.68)	303,071 (7.58)	11	11
3A	2,959 (6.58)	142,049 (3.55)	5	5
3B[a]	6,100 (11.09)	186,741 (4.67)	8	7
4[a]	4,688 (8.52)	183,424 (4.59)	7	6
5A	3,611 (8.02)	154,002 (3.85)	6	5
5B	1,936 (4.30)	71,321 (1.78)	3	4
5C[a,b]	9,882 (17.97)	327,140 (8.18)	14	13
6[a]	8,658 (15.74)	338,808 (8.47)	12	11
7[a]	7,336 (13.34)	279,257 (6.98)	10	10
8A	3,297 (7.33)	161,633 (4.04)	6	6
8B[c]	2,667 (5.93)	112,119 (2.80)	5	5
STATE TOTALS	68,941	2,776,755	105*	101

[a] District with a city of 50,000 or more population.
[b] One additional judgeship for seat of government.
[c] One additional judgeship for location of state penitentiary.
[d] In judicial election districts containing a city of 50,000 or more population (i.e., 1A, 1B, 3B, 4, 5C, 6, and 7), there shall be one judgeship per 550 combined civil and criminal filings, with exclusions listed in Iowa Code § 602.6201(3), and 40,000 population, giving equal weight to each quotient. All other districts are entitled to one judgeship per 450 filings or 40,000 population. The filing and population quotients are added together, divided by two (averaged), and rounded to the nearest hundredth.

* Although the 1991 application of the judgeship formula created four (4) vacancies, the provisions of Iowa Code § 602.6201, subsection 10, limit the maximum number of district judges to one hundred one (101) and, consequently, prohibit the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared by: State Court Administrator, Statehouse, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319
February 5, 1991

ANALYSIS OF STATISTICS

Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

For the purpose of the following discussion, regular civil cases include all law, equity, and special proceedings docketed in the office of the clerk except in the small claims docket. An appeal from a decision of a judicial magistrate in a small claims action also is considered a regular civil case.

Regular criminal cases include all felony and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated). A felony is a public offense which is, or in the discretion of the court may be, punished by imprisonment in the state penitentiary, men's reformatory or women's reformatory. An indictable misdemeanor is a public offense, less than a felony, in which the punishment exceeds a fine of $100 or imprisonment for more than 30 days in the county jail. An appeal from a decision or verdict in a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor case becomes a regular criminal case when docketed by the clerk as a regular criminal action.

A total of 112,972 regular civil and criminal cases were docketed in the clerks' offices during 1990. This was a 7.1 percent increase from the 105,476 civil and criminal cases docketed in 1989. A comparison of cases docketed for 1989 and 1990 reveals that civil filings increased 4.9 percent (49,588 to 52,030), criminal filings jumped 9 percent (55,888 to 60,942).

A number of regular civil cases and indictable misdemeanors filed in district court were assigned to district associate judges for disposition. The total number of regular civil and indictable criminal dispositions by district and district associate judges in 1990 was 112,515 -- an increase of 8 percent from the 104,180 cases disposed of in 1989. There were 457 more cases pending December 31, 1989, than on January 1 of that year; the number of pending cases increased in all but the 2nd and 7th Districts. **[Tables 1, 2(a) and 3(a)]**

District Judges' Activities

During 1990, district court judges disposed of 52,519 regular civil cases: 470 or 0.8 percent by trial to jury, 8,968 or 17 percent by trial to court, and 43,081 or 82 percent without trial. The number of civil dispositions per judge ranged from 411 in the 2nd District to 574 in the 6th. Statewide, there were 520 civil dispositions per district court judge, up from 514 in 1989. **[Tables 2(a), (b) and (d)]**

During 1990, district judges disposed of 20,091 regular criminal cases: 772 or 3.8 percent by trial to jury, 1,262 or 6.3 percent by trial to court, and 18,057 or 89.9 percent without trial. The number of criminal dispositions per judge ranged from 107 in the 8th District to 302 in the 3rd. Statewide, there were 199 criminal dispositions per district court judge. **[Tables 3(a), (b) and (d)]**

The average number of civil and criminal cases disposed of per judge, with the rank of each district, is shown on **Table 4**. The 4th District recorded the highest number of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (830) while the 8th District had the lowest number of dispositions per judge (564).

District Associate Judges' Activities

There 782 regular civil cases assigned to district associate judges during 1990 -- a 1.3 percent decrease from 792 cases assigned in 1989. During 1990, the judges of limited jurisdiction disposed of 770 regular civil cases, six or 0.8 percent by jury trial, 175 or 22.7 percent by trial to court, and 589 or 76.5 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 0 in the 4th District to 44 in the 7th. **[Tables 2(a), (c) and (d)]**

During 1990, 40,262 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors and simple misdemeanors on appeal) were assigned to district associate judges as compared to 35,312 assigned to such judicial officers in 1989. Of the 39,905 criminal cases disposed of by district associate judges in 1990, 283 or 0.7 percent were resolved by trial to jury, 531 or 1.3 percent by trial to court, and 39,091 or 98.0 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 608 in the 8th District to 1,277 in the 1st. **[Tables 3(a), (c) and (d)]**

Civil and Criminal Filings by Case Type

Dissolution filings (and modifications) represented 36.0 percent (18,725) of the 52,030 civil cases docketed in the district court in 1990. **[Table 5]** These cases, combined with other actions involving domestic relations such as child support recovery (7,347) and domestic abuse (188), accounted for one-half (50.5 percent) of all civil cases filed in the district court.

Table 5 also shows that 684 (2.2 percent) of the 30,880 small claims rulings by judicial officers of limited jurisdiction were appealed on the record to the district court, pursuant to Iowa Code § 631.13. Such appeals comprised 1.3 percent of the civil case filings.

In the criminal area, the 18,789 first and second offense drunken driver cases (OWI--operating while intoxicated) represented 37.8 percent of the indictable misdemeanor filings and 30.8 percent of all the regular criminal cases, i.e., felonies, indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated), and simple misdemeanors on appeal. **[Table 6]**

The 10,884 felony filings represented 17.9 percent of the 60,942 criminal cases docketed. Only 0.1 of one percent (353) of the 302,443 simple misdemeanors handled by district associate judges and magistrates were appealed to the district court for a new trial, pursuant to rule 54, Rules of Criminal Procedure. Such appeals comprised 0.6 percent of the criminal filings.

Pending Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

Of the 34,021 regular civil cases pending at the end of the year, 4,521 or 13.3 percent were over 18 months old. During 1990, the number of civil cases pending over 18 months decreased by 859 or 16 percent. **[Appendix A]** The proportion of pending civil cases over 18 months old ranged from 1.3 percent in the 7th District to 21.2 percent in the 3rd. In six of the eight districts there were fewer civil cases pending at the end of the year than at the beginning. Statewide, the number of civil cases pending decreased 1.4 percent (34,510 to 34,021).

There were 946 more criminal cases pending on December 31, 1990, than on January 1. Of the 26,277 regular criminal cases pending at the end of 1990, 18.1 percent (4,763) were over 18 months old and 39.9 percent (10,488) had been pending 3 to 18 months. **[Appendix B]** The 3rd District had the highest percentage of cases pending over 90 days (68.8 percent); the 7th District had the lowest percentage of criminal cases over 90 days old (50.5 percent).

Probate Matters

The district judges exercise the probate jurisdiction of the unified trial court. There were 804 trusteeships opened in 1990 -- down 6.9 percent from the previous year. **[Table 7(a)]** The number of trusteeships opened ranged from 41 in the 4th District to 157 in the 2nd. During 1990, 3,873 guardianships and conservatorships were opened -- up 2.3 percent from 1989; the number of cases ranged from 261 in the 4th to 783 in the 5th. Some 17,956 decedent estates were opened in 1990 -- a decrease of 963 or 5.1 percent. The number of estates opened varied from 1,237 in the 4th District to 3,567 in the 2nd. Statewide, there were 14 jury trials and 443 trials to court in contested probate matters. **[Table 7(a)]**

Of the 17,958 estates closed during 1990, 60 percent were closed within one year, 30 percent from 1-3 years, and 10 percent after three years. In 1990, 68 percent of the estates were settled within one year in the 8th District. **[Table 7(b)]** The number of decedents' estates closed during 1990 was two more than the number of new estates opened. **[Tables 7(a) and (b)]**

Juvenile Matters

Juvenile matters are heard by district judges, juvenile referees, and district associate judges designated by the chief judge of the judicial district to act as judges of the juvenile court. There were 8,086 juvenile petitions filed in the district court clerks' offices during 1990 -- 998 more petitions than in 1989. **[Table 8(a)]** Juvenile petitions were classified into four general categories: delinquency (4,392), child in need of assistance or CHINA (3,638), family in need of assistance or FINA (26), and interstate compacts or extradition (30). Seventy-three percent of the FINA petitions were filed in the 2nd and 7th Districts.

The number and type of formal hearings in juvenile matters are illustrated in **Table 8(b)**. Figures show there were 4,864 adjudication hearings, 6,544 disposition hearings, 9,172 review hearings, 1,964 shelter/detention hearings, and 5,668 other hearings, for a grand total of 28,212 -- up 2,238 from 1989. Forty-two percent of the juvenile hearings were handled by district associate judges, 53 percent were conducted by referees, and 5 percent by district judges.

Termination of Parental Rights

For statistical purposes, termination of parental rights cases were separated from regular juvenile matters involving delinquent children and minors or families in need of assistance. As indicated in **Table 9**, there were 1,000 petitions for termination of parental rights filed in the district court during 1990 -- a decrease of 37 cases from 1989. One-third of the petitions (305) involved involuntary or contested proceedings. The largest number of termination cases (217) was docketed in the 5th District; the fewest petitions (65) were filed in the 4th District. There were 1,311 formal hearings held on these matters down 58 or 4.2 percent from 1989.

Hospitalization Hearings

Table 10 shows the number and type of hospitalization hearings. There were 5,961 hospitalization hearings in Iowa during 1990 -- 356 involuntary minor, 2,512 involuntary adult, 1,609 emergency, and 1,484 substance abuse. Seventy-seven percent of the hearings were held by judicial hospitalization referees.

General Activities of District Associate Judge

Other than regular civil and criminal cases, termination of parental rights, and juvenile matters discussed above, a total of 162,648 cases were docketed or assigned and 164,847 cases were disposed of by the 46 associate judges during 1990. There were 28,233 cases pending at the end of the year. The number of cases docketed and assigned ranged from 5,706 in the 7th District to 71,806 in the 5th. The total number of simple misdemeanor and small claims cases pending at the end of the year varied from 302 in the 7th District to 13,818 in the 5th. The number of each type of case filed, terminated, and pending during 1990, appears in Tables **12(a) through 12(d)**.

As committing magistrates for indictable offenses, district associate judges conducted 27,866 initial appearance proceedings and 1,008 preliminary hearings in indictable criminal cases, pursuant to rule 2, Rules of Criminal Procedure. **[Table 12(a)]** Sixty percent of the initial appearances were held in the 5th, 6th, and 3rd Districts; over 65 percent of the preliminary hearings by associate judges occurred in the 5th District.

There were 12,441 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) carried over from 1989. During 1990, 67,314 were docketed as compared to 66,666 in 1989. Of the 67,524 state cases terminated during 1990, the judges disposed of 50 or less than 0.1 percent by trial to jury, 2,500 or 3.7 percent by trial to court and 64,974 or 96.2 percent without trial. The number of simple misdemeanor state cases pending at the end of 1990 (12,231) was 210 less than the number pending at the beginning of the year. During 1990, the associate judges of the 5th District had by far the largest number of nonindictable state cases docketed and terminated. **[Table 12(b)]**

Some 47,845 simple misdemeanor ordinance cases were pending from 1989. During 1990, 46,565 were docketed and 78,803 were disposed of: 56 or less than 0.1 percent by trial to jury, 1,705 or 2.2 percent by trial to court, and 77,042 or 97.8 percent without trial. The number of pending cases decreased 67.4 percent from 47,845 to 15,607. **[Table 12(c)]**

During 1990, district associate judges entertained 566 search warrant applications and conducted 290 seized property hearings. Nearly three-fourths of the applications for search warrants handled by district associate judges occurred in the 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 7th Districts; 60 percent of the seized property hearings occurred in the 1st District. **[Table 14(d)]**

There were 18,509 small claims assigned and 18,520 cases terminated by associate judges during 1990. **[Table 12(d)]** The judges resolved 6,386 or 34.5 percent by trial to the court and 12,134 or 65.5 percent without trial. Of those disposed of without trial, 10,983 or 90.5 percent were defaulted and 1,151 or 9.5 percent were either dismissed or transferred. Nearly half of the small claims cases handled by such judges were assigned and disposed of in the 5th District.

District associate judges also disposed of 518 civil infractions in 1990. **[Table 12(d)]**

Magistrates

In 1990, 193,227 cases were docketed or assigned to 149 magistrates; they disposed of 168,476 or 1,131 cases per magistrate. **[Table 13]** The number of dispositions per magistrate ranged from 659 (5th District) to 2,021 (6th District). Nearly one-third of the cases pending at the end of the year were in the 1st District. [Note: Judicial districts vary in population from 183,424 (4th) to 552,463 (5th) and in the number of magistrates from 13 (6th and 7th) to 32 (2nd).]

As shown in **Table 14(a)**, there were 23,246 initial appearances and 534 preliminary hearings conducted by magistrates in indictable criminal cases. While the largest number of such actions was in the 2nd District, magistrates in the 4th District had the fewest number of initial appearances and magistrates in the 7th District had the smallest number of preliminary hearings.

There were 110,399 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) docketed before magistrates in 1990. **[Table 14(b)]** The magistrates disposed of 109,533 cases -- 85 or less than 0.1 percent by trial to jury, 7,750 or 7.1 percent by trial to court, and 101,698 or 92.8 percent without trial. The 2nd District had the most jury trials (21) while the 4th District reported the least (1). There were 20,016 nonindictable state cases docketed in the 2nd District; only 8,287 were docketed before magistrates in the 5th District.

Statistics on nonindictable ordinance cases disclose that 46,041 cases were docketed, 46,583 were disposed, and 6,853 were still pending on December 31, 1990. Ninety-six percent of the ordinance cases were disposed of without a contested trial to a judge or jury. The 24 magistrates in the 1st District handled 18,564 ordinance cases or over one-third of the state total. **[Table 14(c)]**

Overall, magistrates terminated 156,116 simple misdemeanors in 1990 compared to 142,302 in 1989.

Magistrates entertained 790 applications for search warrants, conducted 100 seized property hearings. **[Table 14(d)]** There were 792 search warrant applications and 149 seized property hearings before magistrates in 1989.

Statewide, for all judicial officers, the number of search warrant applications increased 3.0 percent (1,535 to 1,581); the number of seized property hearings dropped 8.6 percent (687 to 629) since 1989. Magistrates in the 2nd and 8th Districts received the largest number of search warrant applications; those in the 3rd District conducted the most seized property hearings. Considering the work of all judicial officers on these matters, the highest volume of applications for search warrants was in the 5th District; the 1st District had the highest number of seized property hearings.

As shown in **Table 14(e)**, magistrates disposed of 12,360 small claims cases in 1990. Sixty percent (7,077) of the small claims were tried before the court; the remaining 5,283 cases (4,003 defaults and 1,280 dismissals or transfers) were disposed of without a trial. The 7th District had the largest number of small claims assigned to magistrates tried to court (2,714); the 6th district had the highest number of cases pending (167) before magistrates at the end of the year.

Magistrates handled 1,652 civil infractions - 24 county infractions and 1,628 city infractions. **[Table 14(e)]**

District Court Clerks

The 99 clerks of the district court played an important role not only in record keeping but in the handling of small claims (dismissals and defaults) and scheduled violations. As noted above, under the Unified Trial Court Act, district court clerks are authorized to docket and assign small claims and enter dismissals and defaults. Cases involving forcible entry and detainer must be handled by a judge.

District court clerks also are responsible for handling scheduled violations in which the defendant mails in or delivers his or her admission, scheduled fine, surcharge, and court cost to the clerk's scheduled violations office before the time specified on the citation and complaint for court appearance. In addition, clerks are the custodians of collection boxes used at weigh stations for the deposit of fines and costs in cases involving weight and other non-moving scheduled violations of commercial carriers.

Table 15 shows that more small claims were disposed of by clerks (41,165) than judges (30,880). While clerks in the 3rd District took care of over three-fourths of the small claims terminated in their district, in the 5th District they handled only 42.1 percent of the small claims dispositions. Overall, 57.1 percent of the small claims were disposed of by district court clerks.

As noted in **Table 16**, the district court clerks disposed of 456,704 scheduled violations without the attention or assistance of any judicial officer -- 10,838 less than the number processed by clerks in 1989. On the average, a district court clerk disposed of 4,613 scheduled violations in 1990. The number of scheduled violations ranged from 235 in Ringgold County to 65,505 in Polk County.

Summary of Trial Court Statistics

There were 52,030 regular civil cases (over $2,000 and small claims on appeal) and 60,942 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors, felonies, and simple misdemeanors on appeal) filed in the district court during 1990. This represented a 4.9 percent increase in civil filings and a 9 percent jump in criminal filings since 1989. **[Appendix F]**

There was a total of 112,515 civil/criminal dispositions in 1990. The number of civil cases terminated increased by 1,110 or 2.7 percent (51,409 to 52,519); the number of criminal dispositions jumped 13.7 percent (52,771 to 59,996) from 1989 figures. **[Tables 5 and 6]** There were 470 jury trials and 8,968 court trials of civil cases; in criminal matters there were 772 jury trials and 1,262 court trials. Statistics show that 79 percent of the civil cases and 94 percent of the criminal cases were disposed of without trial. **[Tables 2(b), 2(c), 3(b), and 3(c)]**

There were 33,251 civil cases pending at the end of 1990 compared with 34,510 on January 1 -- a decrease of 1,259 or 3.8 percent. The number of pending criminal cases increased 3.7 percent (25,331 to 26,277). Of the cases pending statewide, 28 percent of the civil cases and 42 percent of the criminal cases were pending three months or less; 13 percent of the civil cases and 18 percent of the criminal cases were over 18 months old. The 7th District had the lowest percentage of civil and criminal cases pending over 18 months. **[Appendices A and B]**

In 1990, there were 718 civil/criminal dispositions per district judge -- 14 more than in 1989. [Appendix H] District court judges in the 4th District had the highest rate of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (830). [Table 4]

A review of the types of cases docketed in the district court shows that 50.5 percent of the 52,030 civil filings involved domestic relations -- dissolutions and modifications (18,725), uniform support actions (7,347), and domestic abuse (188). [Table 5] Parenthetically, the largest category of criminal cases was first and second offense OWI (operating while intoxicated). OWIs comprised 30.8 percent or 18,789 of the 60,942 criminal filings. [Table 6] Appeals of simple misdemeanors (353) and small claims appeals (684) represented only 1.1 percent of the criminal filings and 1.3 percent of the civil filings, respectively. Statistically, only 0.1 percent of the 302,443 simple misdemeanors and 2.2 percent of the 30,880 small claims cases disposed of by judicial officers were appealed to the district court for a second ruling.

The number of probate matters opened dropped 4.0 percent (23,569 to 22,633) during 1990; there were 804 trusteeships, 3,873 guardianships and conservatorships, and 17,956 estates. Corresponding figures for 1989 were 864, 3,786, and 18,919, respectively. The number of estates closed decreased 1.5 percent from 18,238 to 17,958; 60 percent of the estates were closed within a one-year period.

There was a 14.1 percent rise in the number of juvenile petitions filed (7,088 to 8,086) compared with 1989 figures; correspondingly, the number of formal juvenile hearings jumped 8.6 percent (25,974 to 28,212). Fifty-three percent of the juvenile hearings were conducted by juvenile referees; 42 percent were handled by district associate judges; and five percent were heard by district judges. In addition to the regular juvenile cases, there were 1,000 petitions and 1,311 formal hearings involving termination of parental rights; there were 1,037 and 1,369 matters the previous year.

The average district judge terminated 719 regular civil/criminal cases and tried 114 contested civil/criminal cases during 1990. The average district associate judge terminated 884 civil/criminal cases and tried 22 contested civil/criminal matters.

There were 302,443 nonindictable state and ordinance cases disposed of in 1990 -- up 13.9 percent from the number (266,354) handled in 1989. Ninety-five percent of the simple misdemeanor cases were disposed of without a contested trial. Judicial officers held 51,112 initial appearances in indictable criminal cases, conducted 1,542 preliminary hearings, entertained 1,581 applications for search warrants, conducted 629 seized property hearings, and 2,170 civil infractions, and handled 5,961 hospitalization hearings. Judicial officers disposed of 30,880 small claims actions while the clerks of the district court handled 41,165. There were 456,704 scheduled violations processed in the clerks' offices.

TABLE 1

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES[a] DOCKETED, DISPOSED OF[b] AND PENDING IN 1990 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989[c]

(Hereafter referred to as Regular Civil and Criminal Cases)

District	Pending January 1	Docketed by Clerk	Disposed of	Pending December 31	Change in Pending
1	7,520	15,739	14,910	8,349	829
2	9,105	14,879	14,947	9,037	(68)
3	9,296	14,917	14,916	9,297	1
4	3,125	6,707	6,971	2,861	(264)
5	11,243	23,167	23,132	11,278	35
6	8,735	14,870	14,812	8,793	58
7	6,393	12,619	12,969	6,043	(350)
8	4,424	10,074	9,858	4,640	216
Statewide					
1990	59,841[d]	112,972	112,515	60,298	457
1989	58,547	105,476	104,180	59,843	1,296

[a]Includes felonies and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and actions for money judgments, other than small claims, where the amount in controversy exceeds $2,000. Also includes simple misdemeanors and small claims appealed to the district court. Does not include juvenile or probate cases.

[b]There were 21 senior judges, 101 district court judges, 46 district associate judges, and six alternate district associate judges serving Iowa during all or part of 1990. Four new district associate judges commenced service at mid-year. In this report, the activities of senior judges and alternate district associate judges are included in the terminations by district and district associate judges with whom they worked.

[c]See map showing districts and 1990 population, Appendix D.

[d]This figure differs from that of December 31, 1989, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(a)

REGULAR CIVIL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1990
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Pending 1/1/90	Docketed	Associate Judges[a]		Disposed of by District Judges	Total Dispo-sitions	Pending 12/31/90
			Assigned To	Disposed By			
1	4,336	6,221	160	136	6,092	6,228	4,329
2	5,673	6,714	60	67	6,987	7,054	5,333
3	4,585	5,819	228	225	5,841	6,066	4,338
4	2,173	3,478	0	0	3,434	3,434	2,217
5	7,354	12,275	2	2	12,319	12,321	7,308
6	4,475	6,249	26	27	6,317	6,344	4,380
7	3,414	6,298	215	218	6,500	6,718	2,994
8	2,500	4,976	91	95	5,029	5,124	2,352
Statewide							
1990	34,510[b]	52,030	782	770	52,519	53,289	33,251
1989	36,332	49,588	792	777	51,409	52,186	33,734

[a]Includes the work of 46 district associate judges and six alternate district associate judges. The 15 district associate judges substituting for judicial magistrates served Polk (2), Dickinson, Story, Woodbury, Warren, Linn, Pottawattamie, Des Moines, Lee, Boone-Hamilton, Poweshiek-Mahaska, Kossuth-Emmet, Cherokee-Clay-Buena Vista, and Marion-Jasper Counties during 1990; alternate district associate judges served in Dickinson, Marshall, Marion, Jasper, and Warren Counties.

[b]This figure differs from that of December 31, 1989, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(b)

REGULAR CIVIL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1990
With Totals Compared to Those of 1989

District	Judges	Total Disposed Of	Tried To Jury	Percent Tried To Jury	Tried To Court	Percent Tried To Court	Without Trial	Percent Without Trial
1	12	6,092	59	1.0%	636	10.4%	5,397	88.6%
2	17	6,987	63	0.9%	730	10.4%	6,194	88.7%
3	12	5,841	51	0.9%	1,658	28.4%	4,132	70.7%
4	6	3,434	34	1.0%	445	13.0%	2,955	86.1%
5	22	12,319	110	0.9%	3,666	29.8%	8,543	69.3%
6	11	6,317	56	0.9%	561	8.9%	5,700	90.2%
7	10	6,500	44	0.7%	460	7.1%	5,996	92.2%
8	11*	5,029	53	1.1%	812	16.1%	4,164	82.8%
Statewide								
1990	101	52,519	470	0.9%	8,968	17.1%	43,081	82.0%
1989	100	51,409	505	1.0%	7,730	15.0%	43,174	84.0%

*Includes one new district judge in the 8th Judicial District who commenced service mid-year.

TABLE 2

(c)

REGULAR CIVIL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1990
With Totals Compared to Those 1989

District	Judges	Total Disposed Of	Tried To Jury	Percent Tried To Jury	Tried To Court	Percent Tried To Court	Without Trial	Percent Without Trial
1	5	136	0	0.0%	9	6.6%	127	93.4%
2	6	67	3	4.5%	54	80.6%	10	14.9%
3	6	225	3	1.3%	50	22.2%	172	76.4%
4	3	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
5	9	2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%
6	6	27	0	0.0%	6	22.2%	21	77.8%
7	5	218	0	0.0%	3	1.4%	215	98.6%
8	6	95	0	0.0%	53	55.8%	42	44.2%
Statewide								
1990	46	770	6	0.8%	175	22.7%	589	76.5%
1989	46	777	1	0.1%	128	16.5%	648	83.4%

TABLE 2

(d)

REGULAR CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1990 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	District Judges			Associate Judges		
	Number	Dispositions	Per Judge (Average)	Number	Dispositions	Per Judge (Average)
1	12	6,092	508	5	136	27
2	17	6,987	411	6	67	11
3	12	5,841	487	6	225	38
4	6	3,434	572	3	0	0
5	22	12,319	560	9	2	0
6	11	6,317	574	6	27	5
7	10	6,500	650	5	218	44
8	11 *	5,029	457	6	95	16
Statewide						
1990	101	52,519	520	46	770	17
1989	100	51,409	514	46	777	17

*Includes one new district judge in the 8th Judicial District who commenced service mid-year.

TABLE 3

(a)

REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1990
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Pending 1/1/90	Docketed	Associate Judges		Disposed of by District Judges	Total Dispositions	Pending 12/31/90
			Assigned To	Disposed By			
1	3,184	9,518	6,829	6,383	2,435	8,818	3,884
2	3,432	8,165	4,536	4,436	3,524	7,960	3,637
3	4,711	9,098	5,429	5,457	3,618	9,075	4,734
4	952	3,229	1,618	1,993	1,544	3,537	644
5	3,889	10,892	7,397	7,339	3,474	10,813	3,968
6	4,260	8,621	5,869	5,799	2,696	8,495	4,386
7	2,979	6,321	4,710	4,849	1,620	6,469	2,831
8	1,924	5,098	3,874	3,649	1,180	4,829	2,193
Statewide							
1990	25,331[a]	60,942	40,262	39,905	20,091	59,996	26,277
1989	22,215	55,888	35,312	33,817	18,954	52,771	25,332

[a]This figure differs from that of December 31, 1989, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 3

(b)

REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1990
With Totals Compared to Those of 1989

District	Judges	Total Disposed Of	Tried To Jury	Percent Tried To Jury	Tried To Court	Percent Tried To Court	Without Trial	Percent Without Trial
1	12	2,435	73	3.0%	423	17.4%	1,939	79.6%
2	17	3,524	134	3.8%	132	3.7%	3,258	92.5%
3	12	3,618	57	1.6%	150	4.1%	3,411	94.3%
4	6	1,544	21	1.4%	14	0.9%	1,509	97.7%
5	22	3,474	124	3.6%	195	5.6%	3,155	90.8%
6	11	2,696	128	4.7%	45	1.7%	2,523	93.6%
7	10	1,620	111	6.9%	19	1.2%	1,490	92.0%
8	11	1,180	124	10.5%	284	24.1%	772	65.4%
Statewide								
1990	101	20,091	772	3.8%	1,262	6.3%	18,057	89.9%
1989	100	18,954	767	4.0%	1,216	6.4%	16,971	89.5%

TABLE 3

(c)

REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1990
With Totals Compared to Those of 1989

District	Judges	Total Disposed Of	Tried To Jury	Percent Tried To Jury	Tried To Court	Percent Tried To Court	Without Trial	Percent Without Trial
1	5	6,383	41	0.6%	100	1.6%	6,242	97.8%
2	6	4,436	71	1.6%	48	1.1%	4,317	97.3%
3	6	5,457	11	0.2%	110	2.0%	5,336	97.8%
4	3	1,993	9	0.5%	1	0.1%	1,983	99.5%
5	9	7,339	27	0.4%	32	0.4%	7,280	99.2%
6	6	5,799	65	1.1%	37	0.6%	5,697	98.2%
7	5	4,849	24	0.5%	12	0.2%	4,813	99.3%
8	6	3,649	35	1.0%	191	5.2%	3,423	93.8%
Statewide								
1990	46	39,905	283	0.7%	531	1.3%	39,091	98.0%
1989	46	33,817	311	0.9%	427	1.3%	33,079	97.8%

TABLE 3

(d)

REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1990 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	District Judges			Associate Judges		
	Number	Dispositions	Per Judge (Average)	Number	Dispositions	Per Judge (Average)
1	12	2,435	203	5	6,383	1,277
2	17	3,524	207	6	4,436	739
3	12	3,618	302	6	5,457	910
4	6	1,544	257	3	1,993	664
5	22	3,474	158	9	7,339	815
6	11	2,696	245	6	5,799	967
7	10	1,620	162	5	4,849	970
8	11*	1,180	107	6	3,649	608
Statewide						
1990	101	20,091	199	46	39,905	868
1989	100	18,954	190	46	33,817	735

*Includes one new district judge in the 8th Judicial District, who commenced service mid-year.

TABLE 4

COMPARISON OF TOTAL 1990 CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASELOAD[a] PER DISTRICT AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGE WITH RANK OF DISTRICT IN PARENTHESIS

(Adjusted to the nearest whole case.)

District	Number of Judges	Number of Civil and Criminal Dispositions — District Judges			Number of Judges	Number of Civil and Criminal Dispositions — District Associate Judges		
		Total	Per Judge	Rank		Total	Per Judge	Rank
1	12	8,527	711	(6)	5	6,519	1,304	(1)
2	17	10,511	618	(7)	6	4,503	751	(6)
3	12	9,459	788	(4)	6	5,682	947	(4)
4	6	4,978	830	(1)	3	1,993	664	(7)
5	22	15,793	718	(5)	9	7,341	816	(5)
6	11	9,013	819	(2)	6	5,826	971	(3)
7	10	8,120	812	(3)	5	5,067	1,013	(2)
8	11*	6,209	564	(8)	6	3,744	624	(8)
Statewide								
1990	101	72,610	719		46	40,675	884	
1989	100	70,363	704		46	34,594	752	

[a]Computed from the sum of such cases disposed of by district and district associate judges, as shown by Tables 2(b), 2(c), 3(b), and 3(c).

*Includes one new district judge in the 8th Judicial District who commenced service mid-year.

TABLE 5

NUMBER OF CIVIL FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1990 BY TYPE OF CASE WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

Dist	Dissolutions		Uniform Support		Domestic Abuse		Other Equity And Law		Small Claims Appeals		TOTAL	
	F	D	F	D	F	D	F	D	F	D	F	D
1	2,040	2,054	1,450	1,318	18	24	2,639	2,609	74	87	6,221	6,092
2	2,610	2,728	1,071	1,031	20	16	2,922	3,108	91	104	6,714	6,987
3	1,773	1,747	887	867	36	58	3,047	3,099	76	70	5,819	5,841
4	1,250	1,251	319	403	4	2	1,866	1,744	39	34	3,478	3,434
5	4,612	4,284	1,278	1,576	13	10	6,156	6,274	216	175	12,275	12,319
6	2,168	2,162	476	476	18	13	3,514	3,586	73	80	6,249	6,317
7	2,129	2,107	1,287	1,291	16	15	2,802	3,018	64	69	6,298	6,500
8	2,143	2,149	579	497	63	66	2,140	2,260	51	57	4,976	5,029
Statewide												
1990	18,725	18,482	7,347	7,459	188	204	25,086	25,698	684	676	52,030	52,519
1989	18,292	18,434	5,734	5,636	259	294	24,616	26,332	687	713	49,588	51,409

Legend

Dissolutions – original actions and modifications.
Uniform Support – actions pursuant to the Uniform Support of Dependents Law.(URESA), Chapter 252A, The Code.

TABLE 6

NUMBER OF CRIMINAL FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1990 BY CASE TYPE WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

Dist	OWI (1st/2nd) F	OWI (1st/2nd) D	Other Indictable Misdemeanors F	Other Indictable Misdemeanors D	OWI (3+) F	OWI (3+) D	Other Felonies F	Other Felonies D	Simple Misdemeanor Appeals F	Simple Misdemeanor Appeals D	TOTAL F	TOTAL D
1	2,904	2,746	5,312	4,911	94	83	1,168	1,033	40	45	9,518	8,818
2	2,524	2,507	3,877	3,772	121	111	1,578	1,504	65	66	8,165	7,960
3	2,325	2,565	4,742	4,482	55	40	1,935	1,955	41	33	9,098	9,075
4	957	978	1,626	1,911	70	77	545	542	31	29	3,229	3,537
5	3,092	3,259	6,101	5,963	268	266	1,366	1,258	65	67	10,892	10,813
6	3,082	3,052	3,999	3,884	162	163	1,310	1,336	68	60	8,621	8,495
7	2,400	2,580	2,747	2,684	82	76	1,086	1,126	6	3	6,321	6,469
8	1,505	1,452	2,512	2,259	75	72	969	1,006	37	40	5,098	4,829
Statewide												
1990	18,789	19,139	30,916	29,866	927	888	9,957	9,760	353	343	60,942	59,996
1989	17,611	17,035	27,404	25,753	805	743	9,676	8,791	392	449	55,888	52,771

Legend

OWI-operating while intoxicated.
Other Indictable Misdemeanors-includes serious and aggravated misdemeanors other than OWI

TABLE 7

(a)

PROBATE MATTERS

NUMBER OPENED AND TRIALS ON CONTESTS DURING 1990
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Judges	Trusteeships Opened	Guardianships & Conservatorships Opened	Estates Opened	Trials To Jury	Trials To Court
1	12	59	421	2,308	1	64
2	17	157	585	3,567	3	78
3	12	112	462	2,265	0	24
4	6	41	261	1,237	1	2
5	22	139	783	2,801	4	148
6	11	142	704	2,294	0	0
7	10	76	277	1,449	1	13
8	11	78	380	2,035	4	114
Statewide						
1990	101	804	3,873	17,956	14	443
1989	100	864	3,786	18,919	4	327

TABLE 7

(b)

DECEDENTS' ESTATES CLOSED[a]

NUMBER CLOSED DURING 1990 AND AGE AT TIME OF CLOSING WITH TOTALS COMPARED WITH THOSE OF 1989

District	Estates Closed	Percent Within 1-Year		Percent From 1-3 Years		After 3 Years	
1	2,382	1,477	62.0%	715	30.0%	190	8.0%
2	3,509	2,072	59.0%	1,160	33.1%	277	7.9%
3	2,377	1,477	62.1%	709	29.8%	191	8.0%
4	1,223	740	60.5%	343	28.0%	140	11.4%
5	3,352	1,779	53.1%	1,104	32.9%	469	14.0%
6	1,667	926	55.5%	611	36.7%	130	7.8%
7	1,324	855	64.6%	321	24.2%	148	11.2%
8	2,124	1,445	68.0%	506	23.8%	173	8.1%
Statewide							
1990	17,958	10,771	60.0%	5,469	30.5%	1,718	9.6%
1989	18,238	11,091	60.8%	5,266	28.9%	1,881	10.3%

[a]In addition, there were 611 trusteeships and 3,867 guardianships and conservatorships closed in 1990.

TABLE 8

(a)

NUMBER AND TYPE OF JUVENILE PETITIONS

FILED DURING 1990
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Delinquency	CHINA	FINA	IC	Total
1	599	356	0	2	957
2	419	524	11	7	961
3	503	462	3	6	974
4	397	281	0	1	679
5	687	691	3	9	1,390
6	488	428	0	0	916
7	658	392	8	0	1,058
8	641	504	1	5	1,151
Statewide					
1990	4,392	3,638	26	30	8,086
1989	3,886	3,159	10	33	7,088

Legend
CHINA - Child in need of assistance
FINA – Family in need of assistance
IC - Interstate compacts (extradition)

(For definition of these terms, see Iowa Code § 232.2)

TABLE 8

(b)

NUMBER OF FORMAL HEARINGS

IN JUVENILE MATTERS DURING 1990
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Adjudication	Disposition	Review	D/S	Other	Total
1	667	746	1,020	480	1,124	4,037
2	549	551	805	128	574	2,607
3	705	517	1,325	341	609	3,497
4	486	306	561	111	440	1,904
5	929	1,961	1,491	151	672	5,204
6	588	766	2,566	442	1,378	5,740
7	438	1,098	438	190	466	2,630
8	502	599	966	121	405	2,593
Statewide						
1990	4,864	6,544	9,172	1,964	5,668	28,212
1989	4,371	6,306	8,551	1,684	5,062	25,974

Legend

Adjudication hearing – § 232.2(2), The Code
Disposition hearing – § 232.2(16), The Code
Review hearing – § 212.102(6), The Code
D/S – Detention/Shelter hearing – § 232.2(14)(46), The Code
Other – Includes such proceedings as: hearings on motions for change of venue and placement, motions for evaluation, change of counsel, motions to continue or suppress evidence, and contempt of court and probation violation hearings

The 28,212 formal juvenile hearings were handled by district judges (1,468), district associate judges (11,949), and referees (14,795).

TABLE 9

NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED AND NUMBER AND TYPE OF FORMAL HEARINGS HELD IN CASES INVOLVING VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, 1990

District	Number of Petitions Filed	Number and Type of Formal Hearings		
		Trial Determination	Review	Total
1V	98	63	16	79
1 I	26	42	39	81
	124	105	55	160
2V	105	66	24	90
2 I	49	32	9	41
	154	98	33	131
3V	119	50	3	53
3 I	19	32	14	46
	138	82	17	99
4V	33	27	9	36
4 I	32	24	6	30
	65	51	15	66
5V	139	139	20	159
5 I	78	88	61	149
	217	227	81	308
6V	78	86	50	136
6 I	37	64	137	201
	115	150	187	337
7V	61	58	1	59
7 I	36	24	42	66
	97	82	43	125
8V	62	47	14	61
8 I	28	19	5	24
	90	66	19	85
1990V	695	536	137	673
1990 I	305	325	313	638
	1,000	861	450	1,311

LEGEND
V – Voluntary or uncontested termination proceeding
I – Involuntary or contested termination proceeding

TABLE 10

NUMBER AND TYPE OF HOSPITALIZATION HEARINGS DURING 1990 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Involuntary Minor	Involuntary Adult	Emergency	Substance Abuse	Total
1	46	318	237	247	848
2	77	501	291	290	1,159
3	65	250	280	182	777
4	45	143	143	64	395
5	11	430	166	169	776
6	32	376	150	251	809
7	57	176	156	139	528
8	23	318	186	142	669
Statewide					
1990	356	2,512	1,609	1,484	5,961[a]
1989	349	2,610	1,593	1,535	6,087

[a]The number of hearings conducted by judges, magistrates, and referees are as follows: hospitalization referees, 4,681; magistrates, 542; district associate judges, 440; and district judges, 298.

TABLE 11

TOTAL ACTIVITY[a] OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES DURING 1990 ON MATTERS OTHER THAN REGULAR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES, TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND JUVENILE CASES WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Judges	Pending January 1	Docketed or Assigned	Disposed Of	Pending December 31
1	5	2,153	10,761	11,563	1,351
2	6	1,137	15,503	15,339	1,301
3	6	3,447	20,488	21,403	2,532
4	3	1,762	6,968	6,803	1,927
5	9	44,208	71,806	102,196	13,818
6	6	5,572	20,347	20,582	5,337
7	5	710	5,706	6,114	302
8	6	1,703	10,979	11,017	1,665
Statewide					
1990	46	60,692	162,558	195,017	28,233
1989	46	56,811	172,035	168,154	60,692

[a]Includes nonindictable (simple) misdemeanors, small claims, initial appearances, preliminary hearings, search warrant applications, and seized property and hospitalization hearings. Pending figures include misdemeanors and small claims only.

NOTE: For complete and detailed information on the various types of cases combined in this table, see Tables 12(a) through 12(d), 14(d) and 10.

TABLE 12

(a)

INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

1990 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Judges	Number of	
		Initial Appearances[a]	Preliminary Hearings[b]
1	5	3,139	0
2	6	3,131	351
3	6	3,348	0
4	3	0	0
5	9	9,597	657
6	6	3,779	0
7	5	3,326	0
8	6	1,546	0
Statewide			
1990	46	27,866	1,008
1989	46	24,810	931

[a]Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.

[b]Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 12

(b)

NONINDICTABLE - STATE CASES

1990 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Judges	Pending 1/1/90	Docketed	Disposed Of By				Pending 12/31/90
				Trial to Jury	Trial to Court	Without Trial: Guilty Plea	Without Trial: Dismissed/ Transferred	
1	5	1,690	4,603	3	1	2,437	2,530	1,322
2	6	722	6,311	2	225	4,552	1,297	957
3	6	2,655	10,163	3	399	5,742	4,564	2,110
4	3	1,344	3,100	0	0	2,375	883	1,186
5	9	2,412	29,720	38	1,047	23,958	4,022	3,067
6	6	1,992	7,047	4	166	4,788	1,773	2,308
7	5	494	1,665	0	5	1,174	786	194
8	6	1,132	4,705	0	657	2,708	1,385	1,087
Statewide								
1990	46	12,441	67,314	50	2,500	47,734	17,240	12,231
1989	46	13,174	66,666	64	2,218	48,980	16,137	12,441

TABLE 12

(c)

NONINDICTABLE - ORDINANCE CASES

1990 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Judges	Pending 1/1/90	Docketed	Disposed Of By				Pending 12/31/90
				Trial to Jury	Trial to Court	Without Trial		
						Guilty Plea	Dismissed/ Transferred	
1	5	352	995	0	21	917	409	0
2	6	378	4,866	2	180	4,189	568	305
3	6	780	6,238	0	286	4,239	2,086	407
4	3	331	2,350	0	0	1,549	466	666
5	9	41,796	21,546	49	812	19,437	32,293	10,751
6	6	3,463	6,906	4	112	6,497	896	2,860
7	5	216	504	1	0	481	130	108
8	6	529	3,160	0	294	2,461	424	510
Statewide								
1990	46	47,845	46,565	56	1,705	39,770	37,272	15,607
1989	46	43,221	61,277	35	2,112	41,181	13,325	47,845

TABLE 12

(d)

SMALL CLAIMS

1990 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Judges	Pending 1/1/90	Assigned By Clerk	Disposed Of By[a]			Pending 12/31/90
				Trial to Court	Without Trial		
					Default	Dismissed/ Transferred	
1	5	111	1,757	541	1,025	273	29
2	6	37	652	363	220	67	39
3	6	12	620	211	332	74	15
4	3	87	1,450	706	519	237	75
5	9	0	10,103	2,966	7,116	21	0
6	6	117	2,483	1,121	918	392	169
7	5	0	20	15	0	5	0
8	6	42	1,424	463	853	82	68
Statewide							
1990	46	406	18,509	6,386	10,983	1,151	395
1989	46	416	17,147	6,072	10,199	886	406

[a]District associate judges also disposed of 14 county infractions and 504 municipal infractions. An infraction is a civil offense punishable by a civil penalty of not more than $100 for each violation or $200 or less for each repeat offense.

TABLE 13

TOTAL ACTIVITY[a] OF MAGISTRATES DURING 1990 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Magistrates Actual [b]	Magistrate Apportionment [c]	Pending January 1	Docketed or Assigned [d]	Disposed	Pending December 31
1	23	23	6,666	42,051	41,705	7,012
2	32	38	2,637	31,564	31,359	2,842
3	20	30	2,141	25,480	25,076	2,545
4	15	18	1,769	14,414	14,373	1,810
5	16	27	867	12,554	12,544	877
6	13	17	2,859	29,076	29,932	2,003
7	13	13	4,256	20,328	21,010	3,574
8	17	25	2,313	17,759	17,689	2,383
Statewide						
1990	149	191	23,508[e]	193,226	193,688	23,046
1989	146	191	21,185	180,506[f]	178,201[g]	23,490

[a]This table does not include the 1,652 infractions handled by magistrates in 1990. See Tables 3(a) and 14(a).

[b]The 1990 figures indicate the actual number of magistrates serving in each district. During 1990, Ida, Adair, and Monona Counties exercised the option provided in Iowa Code § 602.6402, and divided their one magistrate position into two jobs leaving 149 magistrates to fill 146 salaried positions.

[c]Figures in this column show the number of magistrate positions apportioned among the counties as provided in Iowa Code § 602.6401. See footnote [a], Table 2(a) for counties substituting district associate judges in lieu of magistrates and Appendix E for the 1989 allocation of magistrates. The 1990 activity of the 15 district associate judges substituting for magistrates is included in the work load of regular district associate judges as illustrated in Table 11 rather than the business of magistrates presented in this table.

[d]For purposes of this table, all search warrant applications, seized property hearings, preliminary hearings, initial appearances, and hospitalization hearings docketed in 1990 were considered disposed of by the end of the year. Pending figures refer only to small claims and simple misdemeanors (nonindictable state and ordinance cases).

[e]This figure differs from that of December 31, 1989, due to inventory corrections.

[f]This figure was reported erroneously on the 1989 Annual Report and changed from 156,378 to 180,506.

[g]This figure was reported erroneously on the 1989 Annual Report and changed from 154,073 to 178,201.

TABLE 14

(a)

INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

1990 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Number Of Initial Appearances[a]	Preliminary Hearings[b]
1	3,110	36
2	4,879	184
3	2,826	103
4	1,501	25
5	1,746	87
6	3,598	10
7	2,428	4
8	3,158	85
Statewide		
1990	23,246	534
1989	22,072	567

[a]Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.

[b]Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 14

(b)

NONINDICTABLE – STATE CASES

1990 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Pending 1/1/90	Docketed	Disposed Of By				Pending 12/31/90
			Trial To Jury	Trial To Court	Without Trial: Guilty Plea	Without Trial: Dismissed/ Transferred	
1	1,982	19,600	6	885	13,106	4,503	3,082
2	2,202	20,016	21	2,248	13,067	4,549	2,333
3	1,875	16,200	6	794	10,529	4,513	2,233
4	970	8,377	1	755	5,562	2,050	979
5	765	8,287	10	679	5,609	1,976	778
6	2,366	15,880	17	1,101	12,977	2,579	1,572
7	2,756	10,520	11	593	7,812	2,144	2,716
8	1,836	11,519	13	695	7,626	3,096	1,925
Statewide							
1990	14,752[a]	110,399	85	7,750	76,288	25,410	15,618
1989	13,793	102,308	97	7,594	70,419	23,239	14,752

[a]This figure may differ from that of December 31, 1989 due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(c)

NONINDICTABLE – ORDINANCE CASES

1990 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Pending 1/1/90	Docketed	Disposed Of By				Pending 12/31/90
			Trial To Jury	Trial To Court	Without Trial		
					Guilty Plea	Dismissed/ Transferred	
1	4,670	17,807	3	560	15,177	2,827	3,910
2	263	4,177	1	421	3,259	361	398
3	225	4,857	0	293	3,857	678	254
4	778	3,502	0	206	2,652	609	813
5	79	1,495	0	302	923	275	74
6	298	7,966	1	272	6,940	787	264
7	660	4,581	3	231	3,428	869	730
8	422	1,656	4	117	1,359	188	410
Statewide							
1990	7,395	46,041	12	2,402	37,595	6,574	6,853
1989	6,137	42,211	26	2,698	32,767	5,462	7,395

TABLE 14

(d)

SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS AND SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS
BY TYPE OF JUDICIAL OFFICER

1990 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

	Search Warrant Applications				Seized Property Hearings			
District	DJ	DAJ	M	Total	DJ	DAJ	M	Total
1	82	24	65	171	7	196	11	214
2	2	58	187	247	3	9	11	23
3	11	84	132	227	12	3	23	38
4	0	20	64	84	0	1	15	16
5	83	124	117	324	167	0	7	174
6	5	119	40	164	0	13	10	23
7	37	90	30	157	42	0	1	43
8	5	47	155	207	8	68	22	98
Statewide								
1990	225	566	790	1,581	239	290	100	629
1989	243	500	792	1,535	212	326	149	687

Legend

DJ – District Judges
DAJ – District Associate Judges
M – Magistrates

TABLE 14

(e)

SMALL CLAIMS

1990 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Pending 1/1/90	Assigned By Clerk	Disposed Of By[a]			Pending 12/31/90
			Trial To Court	Without Trial		
				Default	Dismissed/ Transferred	
1	14	1,279	778	395	100	20
2	172	1,998	1,349	515	195	111
3	41	1,263	711	402	133	58
4	21	896	400	435	64	18
5	23	768	586	111	69	25
6	195	1,567	697	700	198	167
7	840	2,714	1,715	1,283	428	128
8	55	1,089	841	162	93	48
Statewide						
1990	1,361	11,574	7,077	4,003	1,280	575
1989	1,255	11,859	7,030	3,459	1,282	1,343

[a]Magistrates also disposed of 24 county infractions and 1,628 municipal infractions. An infraction is a civil offense punishable by a civil penalty of not more than $100 for each violation or $200 or less for each repeat offense.

TABLE 15

SMALL CLAIMS DOCKET MAINTAINED BY THE CLERK DURING 1990 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Pending 1/1/90	Docketed	Disposed Of By		Pending 12/31/90
			Clerk	Judicial Officers[a]	
1	1,437	8,368	4,897	3,112	1,796
2	1,662	10,594	7,843	2,709	1,704
3	1,281	9,067	7,151	1,863	1,334
4	780	4,639	2,331	2,361	727
5	2,353	18,385	7,909	10,869	1,960
6	1,179	7,373	3,138	4,026	1,388
7	1,020	8,354	4,364	3,446	1,564
8	1,110	6,179	3,532	2,494	1,263
Statewide					
1990	10,822 [b]	72,959	41,165	30,880	11,736
1989	10,240	67,024	37,514	28,928	10,822

[a]Includes small claims dispositions by magistrates and judges.

[b]This figure may differ from that of December 31, 1989, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 16
NUMBER OF SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS[a]
Handled Exclusively by the District Court Clerks (per county)

County	1990	1989	County	1990	1989
Adair	1,624	1,453	Jefferson	2,300	2,299
Adams	951	1,000	Johnson	20,243	18,304
Allamakee	1,158	1,319	Jones	2,097	2,290
Appanoose	2,353	2,175	Keokuk	500	438
Audubon	678	705	Kossuth	1,804	1,833
Benton	3,450	3,846	Lee	4,002	4,062
Black Hawk	18,686	15,225	Linn	16,808	15,202
Boone	3,773	3,650	Louisa	1,947	1,416
Bremer	2,099	2,564	Lucas	1,019	1,085
Buchanan	4,239	3,446	Lyon	976	1,195
Buena Vista	4,422	3,781	Madison	1,783	1,526
Butler	2,999	3,322	Mahaska	2,922	3,375
Calhoun	1,190	1,469	Marion	5,515	5,709
Carroll	5,190	4,893	Marshall	4,346	3,972
Cass	2,373	2,316	Mills	2,316	1,021
Cedar	10,960	8,989	Mitchell	850	813
Cerro Gordo	9,519	9,724	Monona	1,415	1,559
Cherokee	2,823	2,387	Monroe	1,897	2,342
Chickasaw	2,180	2,230	Montgomery	1,556	1,573
Clarke	4,054	5,748	Muscatine	7,202	7,083
Clay	4,424	4,090	O'Brien	2,143	1,956
Clayton	3,282	3,304	Osceola	1,673	1,068
Clinton	6,202	7,932	Page	1,346	851
Crawford	3,162	3,876	Palo Alto	1,317	1,305
Dallas	4,775	4,460	Plymouth	5,376	5,186
Davis	1,120	1,397	Pocahontas	775	936
Decatur	1,473	1,792	Polk	65,505	78,690
Delaware	3,580	4,289	Pottawattamie	11,981	12,693
Des Moines	5,665	6,031	Poweshiek	3,109	3,588
Dickinson	3,595	3,273	Ringgold	235	204
Dubuque	11,066	12,576	Sac	2,542	2,064
Emmet	1,295	949	Scott	26,592	29,941
Fayette	3,335	3,453	Shelby	1,810	2,214
Floyd	2,527	2,227	Sioux	3,879	3,038
Franklin	3,866	4,349	Story	9,149	9,292
Fremont	2,252	2,104	Tama	5,115	4,785
Greene	1,819	2,368	Taylor	692	400
Grundy	2,319	2,613	Union	3,686	1,874
Guthrie	954	1,243	Van Buren	716	759
Hamilton	2,951	3,132	Wapello	6,851	6,976
Hancock	1,416	1,613	Warren	4,506	4,529
Hardin	2,943	3,126	Washington	2,538	2,117
Harrison	4,733	5,877	Wayne	906	763
Henry	3,150	2,844	Webster	4,326	4,915
Howard	1,236	1,055	Winnebago	765	806
Humboldt	1,870	1,694	Winneshiek	2,655	2,576
Ida	1,949	1,373	Woodbury	19,249	18,936
Iowa	2,194	2,173	Worth	3,475	4,055
Jackson	1,814	2,272	Wright	1,518	1,195
Jasper	5,081	5,006			
			TOTAL	456,704	467,542

[a]Scheduled violations are defined in § 805.8, The Code.

APPENDIX A

NUMBER AND AGE OF CIVIL CASES[a] PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1990 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Total Number Pending	Number of Cases Pending (In Percent)					
		90 Days Or Less		3-18 Months		Over 18 Months	
1	4,465	1,175	26.3%	2,627	58.8%	663	14.8%
2	5,400	1,324	24.5%	3,027	56.1%	1,049	19.4%
3	4,563	1,030	22.6%	2,566	56.2%	967	21.2%
4	2,217	590	26.6%	1,250	56.4%	377	17.0%
5	7,310	2,386	32.6%	4,194	57.4%	730	10.0%
6	4,407	1,112	25.2%	2,774	62.9%	521	11.8%
7	3,212	1,049	32.7%	2,121	66.0%	42	1.3%
8	2,447	835	34.1%	1,440	58.8%	172	7.0%
Statewide							
1990	34,021	9,501	27.9%	19,999	58.8%	4,521	13.3%
1989	34,511[b]	9,327	27.0%	19,804	57.4%	5,380	15.6%

[a]Includes civil cases above a small claim and small claims on appeal.

[b]Due to inventory adjustments, this figure differs from the corrected January 1, 1990, figure of 34,510 pending civil cases shown on Table 2(a).

APPENDIX B

NUMBER AND AGE OF CRIMINAL CASES[a] PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1990 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1989

District	Total Number Pending	Number of Cases Pending (In Percent)					
		90 Days Or Less		3-18 Months		Over 18 Months	
1	3,884	1,454	37.4%	1,732	44.6%	698	18.0%
2	3,637	1,342	36.9%	1,264	34.8%	1,031	28.3%
3	4,734	1,476	31.2%	2,200	46.5%	1,058	22.3%
4	644	319	49.5%	218	33.9%	107	16.6%
5	3,968	2,481	62.5%	1,226	30.9%	261	6.6%
6	4,386	1,602	36.5%	1,614	36.8%	1,170	26.7%
7	2,831	1,401	49.5%	1,347	47.6%	83	2.9%
8	2,193	951	43.4%	887	40.4%	355	16.2%
Statewide							
1990	26,277	11,026	42.0%	10,488	39.9%	4,763	18.1%
1989	25,332[b]	10,580	41.8%	10,117	39.9%	4,635	18.3%

[a]Includes criminal cases above a small misdemeanor and simple misdemeanors on appeal.

[b]Due to inventory adjustments, this figure differs slightly from the corrected January 1, 1990, figure of 25,331 pending criminal cases shown on Table 3(a).

APPENDIX C

POPULATION PER DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

District	Judges	District Population[a]	Population Per Judge
1	12	359,812	29,984
2	17	460,449	27,085
3	12	328,790	27,399
4	6	183,424	30,571
5	22	552,463	25,112
6	11	338,808	30,801
7	10	279,257	27,926
8	11	273,752	24,887
STATE	101	2,776,755	27,493

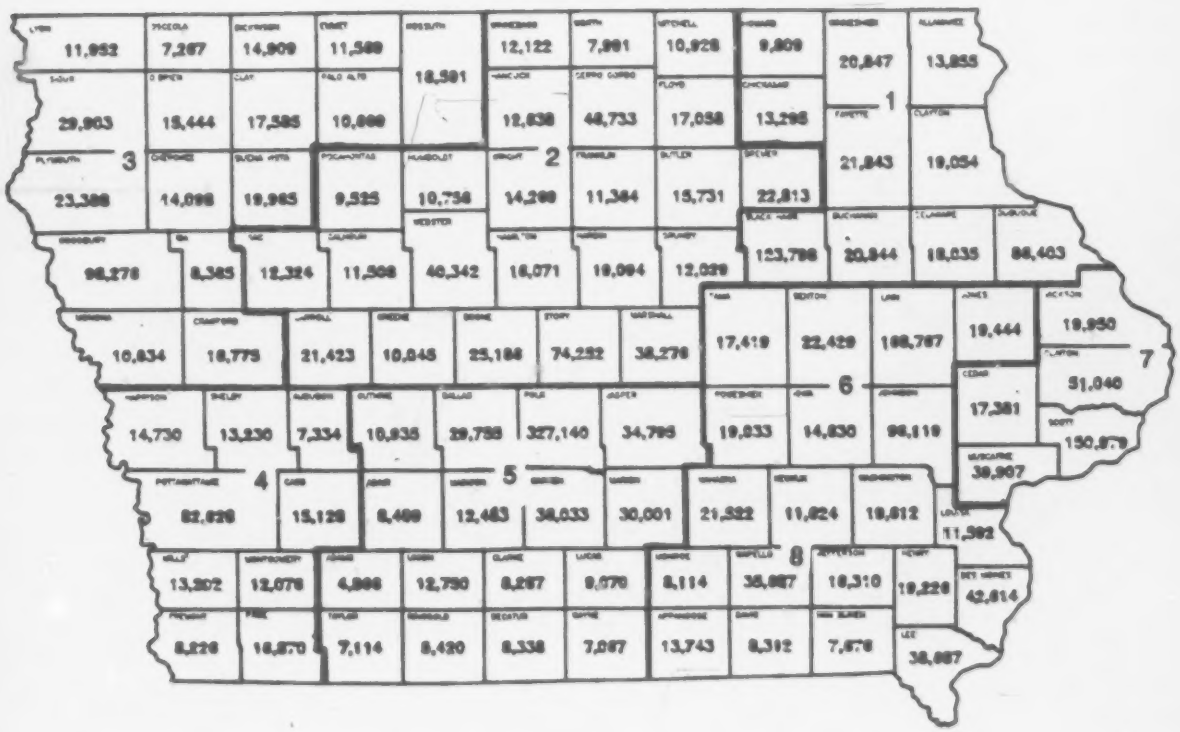
[a]Official 1990 population statistics – U.S. Bureau of the Census

APPENDIX D

IOWA'S EIGHT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS – POPULATION[a]

First District	359,812	Fifth District	552,463
Second District	460,449	Sixth District	338,808
Third District	328,790	Seventh District	279,257
Fourth District	183,424	Eighth District	273,752

STATE TOTAL -- 2,776,755

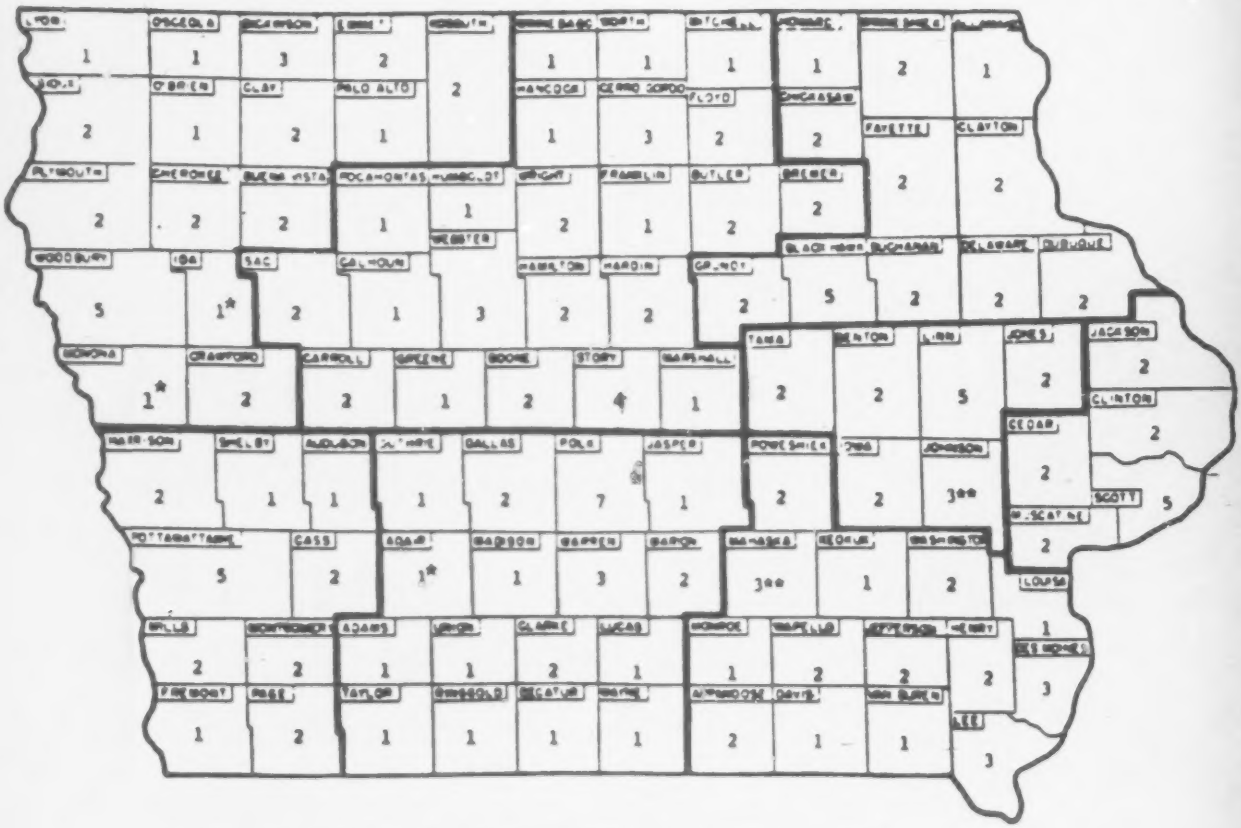


[a]Official 1990 population figures – U.S. Bureau of the Census

APPENDIX E

ALLOCATION OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
AUGUST 1, 1989 THROUGH JULY 31, 1991

37 - one Magistrate counties
47 - two Magistrate counties
8 - three Magistrate counties
1 - four Magistrate counties
5 - five Magistrate counties
1 - seven Magistrate county



* Counties taking the option of appointing one additional magistrate as provided in § 602.58.

**Pursuant to Chapter 316, § 14, 1989 Iowa Acts, the number of magistrates apportioned to Johnson County was reduced from four to three. The magistrate position was then apportioned to Judicial Election District 8A where it was assigned to Mahaska County by order of the chief judge of the district.

A list of counties substituting a district associate judge in lieu of three magistrates is found at the bottom of Table 2(a).

APPENDIX F

FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
1960 - 1990

Year	# District Judges	Civil[a]	Criminal[b]	TOTAL	Per Judge	Juvenile[c]	Probate[d] Opened
1990	101	52,030	60,942	112,972	1,119	8,086	22,633
1989	100	49,588	55,888	105,476	1,055	7,088	23,569
1988	100	48,432	49,704	98,136	981	6,745	25,621
1987	100	49,697	45,115	94,812	948	6,064	24,410
1986	99	53,027	45,391	98,418	994	6,367	23,793
1985	99	54,005	41,116	95,121	961	6,060	24,790
1984	99	49,294	40,379	89,673	906	6,099	24,190
1983	99	51,476	39,952	91,428	924	5,532	24,233
1982	95	55,763	39,008	94,771	998	5,363	24,329
1981	95	58,225	36,932	95,157	1,002	5,570	24,192
1980	92	58,442	35,669	94,111	1,028	5,501	23,452
1979	92	51,031	31,026	82,057	892	5,227	23,479
1978	92	46,498	27,942	74,440	809	6,179	24,218
1977	92	43,324	28,795	72,119	784	6,000	23,202
1976	89	40,103	26,009	66,112	742	5,744	22,896
1975	84	37,963	23,600	61,563	733	5,685	22,640
1974	83	36,216	20,653	56,869	685	5,446	22,646
1973	83	38,057	16,148	54,205	653	3,730	22,803
1972	76	40,483	10,699	51,182	673	2,567	21,953
1971	76	40,315	11,300	51,615	679	3,249	21,317
1970	76	37,965	10,140	48,105	633	3,224	20,470
1969	76	35,574	9,505	45,079	593	2,876	20,158
1968	75	33,617	8,367	41,984	560	2,626	19,520
1967	76	31,646	7,496	39,142	515	2,367	19,310
1966	75	30,310	7,159	37,469	500	2,146	19,515
1965	75	29,207	7,432	36,639	489	2,163	19,463
1964	75	28,405	7,004	35,409	472	2,341	19,034
1963	75	28,138	6,641	34,779	464	2,096	18,532
1962	75	28,528	7,113	35,641	475	2,035	17,831
1961	75	28,288	7,209	35,497	473	1,880	17,346
1960	73	26,767	7,260	34,027	466	2,012	17,248

[a]Includes civil cases over $2,000 and small claims on appeal.

[b]Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals.

[c]Includes petitions filed in ordinary juvenile matters, e.g., delinquency, child and family in need of assistance, and interstate compacts (extradition) matters; does not encompass cases involving termination of parental rights. [Table 8(a)]

[d]Includes the number of estates, trusteeships, guardianships, and conservatorships opened. [Table 7(a)]

APPENDIX G

OTHER FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
1974 - 1990

Year	Simple Misdemeanors	Scheduled Violations	Small Claims
1990	269,796	456,704	72,959
1989	272,462	467,542	67,024
1988	240,676	461,810	65,131
1987	229,652	464,384	63,394
1986	236,179	452,458	68,465
1985	229,425	426,302	73,752
1984	232,070	426,023	71,666
1983	221,841	418,124	67,298
1982	231,998	425,272	67,967
1981	267,436	470,553	75,259
1980	292,037	490,158	82,208
1979	291,404	462,224	78,141
1978	319,481	476,955	72,054
1977	410,862	310,710	65,434
1976	410,696	285,086	62,416
1975	375,707	223,622	63,582
1974 a	286,504	198,147	68,021

[a]This was the first full year under the new unified court system which became effective July 1, 1973.

APPENDIX H

CIVIL/CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONS BY DISTRICT COURT JUDGES[a]
1960 - 1990

Year	# District Judges	Civil[b]	Criminal[c]	TOTAL	Per Judge
1990	101	52,519	20,091	72,610	718
1989	100	51,409	18,954	70,363	704
1988	100	55,777	17,326	73,103	731
1987	100	54,414	16,847	71,261	713
1986	99	54,284	19,387	73,671	744
1985	99	51,001	17,882	68,883	696
1984	99	49,324	20,382	69,706	704
1983	99	52,706	19,815	72,521	733
1982	95	54,484	19,027	73,511	774
1981	95	54,511	17,834	72,345	762
1980	92	52,799	17,448	70,247	764
1979	92	47,754	15,098	62,852	683
1978	92	41,898	14,561	56,459	614
1977	92	38,682	17,200	55,882	607
1976	89	37,319	17,750	55,069	619
1975	84	35,737	14,874	50,611	603
1974	83	35,007	14,268	49,275	594
1973	83	38,381	12,384	50,765	612
1972	76	40,553	11,147	51,700	680
1971	76	38,455	10,659	49,114	646
1970	76	35,636	9,304	44,940	591
1969	76	32,642	8,676	41,318	544
1968	75	29,541	8,035	37,576	501
1967	76	29,343	7,267	36,610	482
1966	75	30,140	6,916	37,056	494
1965	75	30,280	6,654	36,934	492
1964	75	28,258	6,757	35,015	467
1963	75	29,342	6,551	35,893	479
1962	75	28,941	7,165	36,106	481
1961	75	30,616	7,556	38,172	509
1960	73	24,094	7,196	31,290	429

[a]Does not include civil and criminal cases disposed of by judges of limited jurisdiction and magistrates.

[b]Includes civil cases over $2,000 and small claims cases appealed to the district court. [Table 2(a)]

[c]Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals. [Table 3(a)]